THIRTY-SEVENTH REPORT

BOSTON RECORDS.

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS

1814-1822.

A VOLUME

OF

RECORDS

RELATING TO THE

EARLY HISTORY OF BOSTON

CONTAINING

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS, 1814 TO 1822

BOSTON
MUNICIPAL PRINTING OFFICE
1906

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REGISTRY DEPARTMENT

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

RECORDS RELATING TO THE EARLY HISTORY OF BOSTON

(*Formerly called Record Commissioners' Reports*)

This volume, which is the thirty-seventh in the series formerly issued under the direction of the Record Commissioners, contains the proceedings of the town from March 14, 1814, to April 1, 1822, containing and completing the meetings of the inhabitants under the town government, as recorded in the tenth book of the original records of the town of Boston.

EDWARD W. McGLENEN,
City Registrar.

Old Court House, Boston.

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BOSTON TOWN RECORDS.

[TENTH BOOK.]

1814 — 1822.

[1.] At a Meeting of the male Citizens of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in publick Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 14th day of March A.D. 1814 — 9 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by the Revd Mr. Parkman.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Laws respecting the Election of Town officers,—read.

Honble. John Phillips, Esqr. chosen Moderator.

Thomas Clark — was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, & the oath of office was administered to him by the Moderator.

Charles Bulfinch
Ebenezer Oliver
Jonathan Hunnewell
Joseph Foster
Nathan Webb
Benjamin Weld
Joseph Lovering
Joseph Austin &
Robert Williams, Esqrs.

were chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing.

The oath was administered to them by the Moderator & the following Certificate given by him.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, }
Suffolk ss. . . . March 14th. 1814— }

Then Charles Bulfinch, Ebenezer Oliver, Jonathan Hunnewell, Joseph Foster, Nathan Webb, Benjamin Weld, Joseph Lovering, Joseph Austin and Robert Williams Esquires being chosen Selectmen of the Town of Boston for the ensuing year severally appeared & made oath faithfully to discharge the duties of their office respecting all elections and the returns thereof.

before me John Phillips
Justice of the Peace.

[2.]

William Smith	William Mackay
William Phillips	Joseph Coolidge jun.
Redford Webster	Joseph Richards
Thomas Perkins	Bryant P. Tilden
Samuel Snelling	Ephraim Elliott and
Ozias Goodwin	Jonathan Phillips Esq^{rs}.

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the ensuing year.

Thomas Mellvill	Nathan Webb
Andrew Cunningham	George Blanchard
John Winslow	Samuel M. Thayer
Stephen Codman	Joseph Tilden
Jonathan Hunnewell	Joseph Austin
Daniel Messenger	Benj^{n}. Rich
William Sullivan	Joseph Lovering
Benjamin Smith	Gedney King
Nathaniel Curtis	Francis J. Oliver
Edward Cruft	John D. Williams
James Phillips	William Harris and
Bryant P. Tilden	John Winslow jun^{r}. Esq^{rs}.

were chosen Firewards for the year ensuing

Thanks of the Town voted to Maj^{r}. Bray & M^{r}. Page.

Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a *School Committee;* and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz.

Rev^{d}. Charles Lowell	Charles Davis, Esq^{r}.
Rev^{d}. Horace Holley	John Heard jun^{r}.
Rev^{d}. Samuel Cary	Peter O. Thacher
Doct^{r}. Aaron Dexter	Francis J. Oliver
Doct^{r}. Thomas Welsh	William Smith &
Doct^{r}. John C. Warren	William Welles Esq^{rs}.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the system of Education adopted by the Town into operation: and that said Committee be also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Government [3] of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools and School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth or by votes of the Town to exercise. The thanks of the Town was then voted to M^{r}. Channing.

Mess^{rs}. Benjamin White	Joseph Stodder
John Cogswell	Allen Bowker
William Clouston	William Ellison jun^{r}.
William Ellison	Nath^{l}. Glover
Nathaniel Bradlee	John Howe Jun^{r}.

Noah Dogget — Richard Thayer
Bradock Loring — Edw[d]. J. Robbins
Thomas Christie — Henry Blake
William Green — Joseph Tucker and
Eleazer Homer — Moses Eayres Jun[r].
were chosen Surveyors of Boards & other Lumber for the year ensuing.

Mess[rs]. Henry Purkett — Nathl[l]. Howe and
John Smith — Benjamin Clark
were appointed Surveyors of Hoops & Staves.

Mess[rs]. Thomas Barbour — John Bannister
Nath[l]. Howe — Thomas Lambert
Benjamin Clark — Benj[n]. Owen
Gershom Spear — James Brown and
Charles Pook — William J Hammet
were chosen cullers of Dry fish.

Mess[rs]. Benjamin White — Nath[l]. Bradlee and William Ellison were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Mess[rs]. Barney Sloan — Neddy Curtis Joseph Champney and Joseph Selaway were chosen Hogreeves & Haywards for the year ensuing.

Samuel Emmons, and John Phillips, Esq[rs]. were chosen Surveyors of Hemp —

[4.] Edward Tuckerman and Josiah Snelling, Esq[rs]. were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

Mess[rs]. John Wells and Richard Austin were chosen Assay Masters

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of Highways.

Mess[rs]. Richard Homer, Francis James and Samuel Sprague were chosen Inspectors of Lime.

Votes,—for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk were received by the Moderator & Town Clerk, [and] sorted and counted when it appeared that the whole number was one hundred & sixty nine votes, and that they were all for John Winslow Esq[r].

Voted, That Stephen Codman, Francis J Oliver and John Osborn Esq[rs]. be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer and also those of the Overseers of the Poor, and the Board of Health. And said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

Voted, That the Auditors of Accounts for the Town of Boston be requested to take into consideration the finances of the County of Suffolk and Town of Boston, to obtain from their respective Treasurers the amount of debts *due from* the County and Town either to Banks or individuals — Also the amount of debts *due to* said County & Town from outstanding taxes, or from individuals or any other accounts; also to obtain the amount received into the Treasury within the last five years from *Justices of the Peace* & other officers, arising from fines & [5] forfitures for breaches of the law — also to ascertain the amount of outstanding Taxes arising from neglecting to collect them when the persons were competent to the payment, as stated in a late report — And to consider how far the *Bondsmen* are answerable for the deficiency of such receiver & Collector — and to report on the same at May Meeting

The Thanks of the Town was voted to the Auditors of Accounts for the last year.

Voted — That the consideration of all money matters be referred to the May Meeting

Voted — That the subject in the Warrant respecting the passageway requested by the New South Church proprietors, be committed to the Selectmen, with full powers to act as the best interest of the Town may require, and make & execute such conveyances as they may think proper, in behalf of the Town.

Voted — That the Selectmen be empowered to sell to M^{r}. David Greenough & his associates so much of the land of the School lot in West Street as in their opinion will not be injurious to the School house, and on such terms as shall appear to them advantageous to the Town — and that they be empowered to make a legal conveyance of the same.

The Petition of Deacon Joseph Field was committed to the Trustees of the land on Boston neck to consider the same and report thereon.

Voted — That the Treasurer be directed to suspend the enforcing the Collection of Dea^{n}. Joseph Fields Bond for the present.

Voted — The petition for a bye law against incumbering the side walks of the Town, was referred to the Selectmen to take the same into consideration & report thereon.

[6.] Voted — That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Hon^{l}. John Phillips Esq^{r}. for his services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in publick Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4th. day of April A D 1814 — 9 O Clock A M.

Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Lowell.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor, Lieutenant Governor & Senators, read.

Law of the Commonwealth dividing the State into Districts for the choice of Senators & Counsellors — read.

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that no printed vote would be received, & that the votes should be put into the Box unfolded.

It was afterwards declared that the Poll should be closed at 2 O Clock — and the Bells to begin tolling at half past 1 O'Clock.

Persons voted for as Governour with the number of Votes for each person — viz

	His Excy. Caleb Strong - - - - - - - - - -	3557
	Hon[l]. Samuel Dexter - - - - - - - - - -	1557
[7.]	Benja. Austin 2. John Holmes 1. - - - - -	3
	Wm. Eustis 1. Henry Dearborn 1 - - - - -	2
	William Sullivan - - - - - - - - - - -	1
		5120

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governor, with the number of votes for each person - viz.

His Honour William Phillips - - - - - - - -	3570
Hon[l]. William Gray - - - - - - - - - -	1550
Hon[ble]. James Lloyd - - - - - - - - -	1
	5121

Persons voted for as Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each Person - viz.

Hon[l]. John Phillips - - - - - - - - - -	3564
Hon[l]. Israel Thorndike - - - - - - - - -	3550
Hon[l]. Josiah Quincy - - - - - - - - - -	3524
Hon[l]. Thomas H. Perkins - - - - - - - -	3554
Hon[l]. Harrison G. Otis - - - - - - - - -	3544
Hon[l]. Daniel Sargent - - - - - - - - - -	3548
Samuel Brown Esqr. - - - - - - - - -	1523

Russell Sturgis Esq^{r}.		1524
Jon^{a}. L. Austin Esq^{r}.		1524
William Little Esq^{r}.		1520
Caleb Bingham Esq^{r}.		1524
David Townsend Esq^{r}.		1520
William Spooner Esq^{r}.		4
Samuel Cobb Esq^{r}.		3
James Lloyd Esq^{r}.		
Caleb Loring Esq^{r}.		
Joseph Hall Esq^{r}.		2
Thomas K. Jones Esq^{r}.		
William Sullivan Esq^{r}.		1
Jesse Putnam Esq^{r}.		
Tho^{s}. L. Winthrop Esq^{r}.		
Stephen Codman Esq^{r}.		
Joseph E. Smith Esq^{r}.		

Attested Copies or return of the persons voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour & Senators for the County of Suffolk sealed up in [8] open Town Meeting, after the vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by law; and directed as follows — viz.

To Alden Bradford Esq^{r}. Secretary of the Commonwealth.—

Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour and Lieutenant Governour, sealed up in open Town Meeting.—Also for Six Senators for the District of Suffolk, directed in the same manner.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty-one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 12th. day of May A D 1814 — 9 o'clock A M.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Huntington.

Warrant calling the Meeting, read —

Paragraphs of the Constitution relating to the choice of Representatives, and the law of the Commonwealth regulating Elections — read

The return of the Assistant Assessors signifying that the major & minor Polls of this Town for the present year were 8275 besides 51 that were in the United States Army, being also read.—

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for Representatives not exceeding thirty-seven.

Votes were received by the Selectmen untill one O'Clock, when they declared the Poll to be closed.

[9.] Upon sorting and counting the votes it appeared that the whole number was 909 — necessary to make a choice 455 — the following (thirty six) Gentlemen had a Majority of the votes — and were declared to be duly elected Representatives for the Town the ensuing year. Viz^{t}.

William Smith	Nathaniel Curtis
James Robinson	Richard Faxon
Jonathan Hunnewell	Samuel Dunn
William Sullivan	John D. Howard
Stephen Codman	Lynde Walter
Benjamin Russell	Jonathan Loring
Charles Davis	Jonathan Whitney
William Hammatt	Samuel J. Prescott
William H. Sumner	Lemuel Shaw
Ephraim Thayer	Andrew Sigourney
Benjamin Weld	Thomas Barry
Benjamin Whitman	William Harris
Oliver Keating	Richard Sullivan
Nathan Webb	Joseph Pierce
Daniel Messenger	William Brown
George G. Lee	Benjamin Gorham
Sam^{l}. M. Thayer	Thacher Goddard &
George Blanchard	William Sturgis

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[10.] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 24 day of May A D 1814 10 O'Clock. A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Stephen Codman Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator.

The Auditors of Accounts made the following Report — viz.

The Committee appointed by a vote of the Town of Boston on the 14th day of March last, to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer; and for other purposes, have attended that service

and ask leave to report — that they have examined the enclosed account of Andrew Sigourney Esquire, the Town Treasurer & Collector; that they find the same right cast and well vouched, that there remained in his hands on the 7th day of May instant a balance of $19,162\frac{22}{100}$ belonging to the Town.

Your Committee in further discharge of their duty addressed a Letter to the standing Committee of Finance, who they conceived most competent to give them such information on the general pecuniary concerns of the Town as would enable them to make such a report as the Town would expect. The Committee have received a written communication from that Committee which so fully discribes the state of the finances and other concerns of the Town and County that your Committee think proper to annex the same hereto, which they beg leave to offer as part of their report — viz.

Second annual report of the Committee of Finance.

[**11.**] The Committee of Finance of the Town of Boston, composed of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health: agreeably to the powers and instructions received from the Town, have examined the accounts of the Treasurer and Collector for the past year, and report as follows. —

They have been gratified to find such a system of order and perspicuous arrangement in the Books of the office, as render the examination & intimate knowledge of the accounts easy & convenient.

By referring to the Report of this Committee in May 1813, it will be found, that there was then due on back taxes from 1804 to 1812 inclusive the sum of $86361.74 —

Since which has been received as follows.

of 1804 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	80.81
of 1805 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	179.11
of 1806 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	299.80
of 1807 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	518.90
of 1808 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	473.
of 1809 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	905.74
of 1810 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1167.73
of 1811 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1052.66
of 1812 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3858.18
	8535.93
The amount of taxes abated the past year - - -	59245.63
Leaves Balance uncollected - - - - - - - -	18580.18
	$86361.74

The amount of taxes assessed in 1813 for County and Town was - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $152400.60

of which has been received to May 7th - - -	$141028.83
amount of errors & abatements - - - - - -	9320. 9
	$150348.92
Ballance uncollected - - - - - - - - - -	2051.68
	$152400.60

from which it appears, that the whole tax for 1813 has [12] been collected or settled except 2000 Dollars, between the 18th. day of October and the 7th. day of May, a period short of 7 months: a circumstance Highly creditable to the Collector and to the inhabitants of the Town. —

The following is a statement of the Towns debts and credits

Dr.	Town of Boston	Cr.
State Tax 1813 - -	$9500	By Notes of several
County Do - - - -	30125.34	persons for land, 7486.55
N. E. Insurance office	5500.	By John Brazer suit
J. Bradley for oil - -	13000.	rec agt. him - - 6500.
To Bank - - - -	25500.	Commonwealth
Private Notes - - -	16881.17	poor - - - 7000.
on Selectmens dfts. -	649.58	Cash in Treas-
on Overseers Do. - -	1372.23	ury - - - - 19162.22
	102,528.32	$40148.77
Selectmens dft. May -	7000.	
Unliquidated Accts. -	10000.	
	$119528.32	

Estimating the debts as above at - - - - - -	$120000
and adding 5000 dollars to the same to cover further unliquidated balances the amount will be - - -	125000
to which add the current expences of the year - -	82000
	$207000

being the same as last year — exhibits the sum to be provided for $207000 in manner following —

from money in the Treasury & debts coming due this year - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	39000
from Commonwealth support of State Poor - - - -	13000
Rents p estimate of last year - - - - - - - -	10000
Town Tax same as last year, for current expences - -	75000
	137000
sum necessary to discharge the balance of debt - -	70000
	$207000

The Committee have deliberated upon the most elegible mode of discharging the above balance and offer the following as the result.—They find [**13**] that the whole amount of State, County & Town taxes for 1813 was $152,400 — And that the County tax for the present year is $14000 less, than in the last; they also find that the County debt being provided for, the current expenses of the County will not require a larger tax in future

It is therefore proposed, that the sum of $14000 dollars should be raised in addition to the amount for current Town expences, and be appropriated towards the discharge of the Towns debts: and that the same amount should be assessed annually until the whole shall be discharged, which will be effected in six years, without laying on the Inhabitants any greater burthen, than what they have borne and promptly paid during the past year.

But as some of the Creditors of the Town may be urgent for immediate payment, it is proposed, that the Town should empower the Treasurer to borrow of Individuals or of publick institutions, such sums as may be necessary to satisfy the present creditors, And that the Committee of Finance be directed to pay particular attention, that the sum raised for the gradual discharge of the old debts be strictly appropriated to that purpose.

By order of the Committee

May 21st. 1814.— Charles Bulfinch, Chairman

Your Committee take this opportunity to add their testimony to that of the Committee of Finance on the perfect system of order and clear arrangement in the Books and Accounts of the Treasurer and Collector, and for the unexampled promptness, with which he has collected nearly the whole of the last years taxes, and of so large a portion of the outstanding taxes, which circumstance does great honour to the talents & integrity of that officer.—

[**14.**] Your Committee also requested the County Treasurer to give them such information from his office as would enable them to satisfy the Town as to the finances of the County, and they received from him every satisfaction they could expect.— The Committee of Finance in their report have taken notice of part of the result of those enquiries, and your Committee have to add, that the County Treasurer stated to them that there were no books in the Office by which he could ascertain the amount of fines and forfeitures received from Justices of the Peace for breaches of law within the last five years, but that since the present Treasurer had been in office had received as follows

from several Justices - - - - - - - - -	1161.64
from Shubael Bell received by him for persons committed - - - - - - - - - - - -	493.35

and that these sums had been paid over to the Treasurer of the Commonwealth agreeable to law.

It also appears that in 1813. there was paid to the Justices of the Peace for criminal suits before them the sum of $3303.92 of this sum (for all suits carried to the Courts by appeal or recognizance) was repaid by the Commonwealth $1700 — Left a balance of Loss to the County of 1603 dollars.

With regard to that part of the duty of your Committee "to ascertain the amount of outstanding taxes arising from neglecting to collect them when the persons were competent to the payment as stated in a late report." That report fully states the amount, but whether any neglect to collect them when persons were competent to the payment took place or not, the Committee have no means of [**15**] ascertaining — And the question "how far the Bondsmen are answerable for the deficiency of such Receiver & Collector" is a legal question which your Committee do not feel themselves competent to determine. —

All which is submitted

Stephen Codman
Francis J. Oliver } Committee
John Osborn

Boston May 23. 1814.

The foregoing Reports of the Auditors of accounts & Committee of Finance were read, considered & accepted by the Town — and ordered that the report of the Committee of Finance be published.

The Committee of Finance having examined the accounts and proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}. Treasurer & Collector of the Town of Boston, as it respects both of said important offices, & are happy to state.

That they find the Treasurer and Collector has executed the duties of said offices with great ability and faithfulness, as will appear from the statements accompanying the report of the Auditors.

The Town of Boston will therefore feel, that a Compensation for services rendered, so essential to their interests, becomes a duty, which will give them pleasure to execute.

The Committee would state, that they find said Treasurer & Collector has expended the sum of one thousand, eighty three dollars 33 cents for necessary Clerk hire in his said offices, from the first day of July 1813 to the 1st. day of June 1814 and the sum of ninety two dollars 15 Cents expences attending [**16**] the delivery of Bills & summonses to delinquents, for which no compensation has been, or can be by him received.

This expence to the Treasurer & Collector has in a great measure arisen from his very able & faithful attention to the collection and settlement of such back taxes as became due, before he was appointed to said offices.

The Committee would therefore report — That there be allowed to the said Andrew Sigourney Esquire out of the Treasury of the said Town of Boston, the sum of eleven hundred seventy five

dollars, forty five cents, the same being the amount of the sums aforesaid by him expended in said offices, as Treasurer & Collector, for said Town, on their account, up to said first day of June 1814 — And considering that the sum of one hundred & forty thousand dollars, taxes, have been received and paid the past year; and eight thousand five hundred dollars back taxes have been collected — and Fifty nine thousand dollars have been settled by abatements, all of which the said Treasurer & Collector has attended to, with that accuracy and faithfulness, which have characterized all his proceedings — The Committee whould further report, That there be allowed & paid to Andrew Sigourney Esquire out of the Treasury of the Town of Boston, the further sum of *Two thousand dollars*, in full for his services as Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes for the year ending the first day of July next. — All which is respectfully submitted, by order of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, & Board of Health of the Town of Boston, said Committee of Finance.

Charles Bulfinch, Chairman.

Boston, May 24th 1814.

[**17.**] The foregoing Report of the Committee of Finance was read, & accepted by the Town.

Edward Tuckerman
William Brown
Joshua Davis
William Hammatt
Peter O. Thacher and
Thomas Dawes, Esquires,
were chosen Trustees of Neck Lands.

The following gentlemen were chosen Inspectors of the Market for the year ensuing — viz.:

Gedney King	Ward No.	1	John P. Thorndike	Ward No.	7
John D. Howard	"	2	Caleb Haywood	"	8
Turell Tuttle	"	3	Isaac P. Simpson	"	9
Samuel Hichborn	"	4	Joseph Allen	"	10
Turell Tuttle, junr.	"	5	John Roulston	"	11
George W. Otis	"	6	Samuel Sprague	"	12

Neddy Curtis and
Abel Hewins,
were chosen Fence Viewers for South Boston.

Romanus Emmerson,
was chosen Hayward and Pound Keeper.

Samuel Holmes and
Elisha Copeland,
were chosen Tythingmen for the year ensuing.

The Petition of Mr. William Bigelow, late Master of the Latin School was committed to

Benjamin Whitman,
[18.] Benjamin Russell,
Lemuel Shaw,
William Mackay and
William Sullivan, Esquires,

to consider this and report at the next adjournment.

The Trustees of lands upon the Neck, to whom was referred the Petition of Joseph Field Esqr., having attended to the subject, having heard and considered the statement of the petitioner, and by a part of their body viewed the premises, now ask leave respectfully to report, that in their opinion, the petitioner has no legal claim against the Town arising from any injury which he may be supposed to have sustained from the alteration in the scite of the burying ground upon the neck, inasmuch as their was never any stipulation or engagement restricting the town from making such alteration if the publick good should render it necessary. The trustees further consider that, the house of the petitioner being protected in front by a high fence & by a row of trees, very little inconvenience can arise or be felt by him, or by those who occupy the same, from the funeral processions, which occasionally enter the burying ground; and that any inconvenience which may arise from this cause is more than compensated by the advantage which will result to the estate from the land in front of the house being forever kept open. It further appeared upon enquiry, that the rent of this estate had not sustained a greater depression, than that of other estates in the vicinity — The Trustees are therefore of opinion that the petitioner is not entitled in law or in equity to [19] compensation from the town according to the prayer of his petition.

All which is submitted.

By order of the Trustees

Chs. Bulfinch, Chairman.

Boston May 24th. 1814.

The foregoing report on the petition of Joseph Field Esqr. was read and accepted.

Voted, that the sum of two hundred dollars be appropriated for the African school the present year.

Voted, that the sum of Seven hundred and fifty dollars be allowed and paid unto Honble. Thomas Dawes Esqr. for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the ensuing year.

Voted — that the sum of One thousand dollars be allowed & paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk, as his salary for the year ensuing.

Voted — that the sum of Eight hundred & sixteen dollars be allowed & paid to each of three assessors for their services the present year.

Voted — that

Stephen Codman
Thomas W. Sumner
William Sullivan
Abraham W. Fuller and
Wm. H. Sumner Esqrs.

be a Committee to take into consideration the subject of the delinquincy of the late Treasurer & Collector of Boston and report on the expediency of commencing a prosecution against said Collector or his Bondsmen.

[20.] Upon the representation and exhibition of the doings and proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esqr. Treasurer and Collector of taxes of the Town of Boston the last year.

Voted — that the Town of Boston highly approve of the conduct of said Andrew Sigourney Esqr. in the said offices of Treasurer & Collector, and that he has faithfully and fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said offices to which he has been appointed as aforesaid, and that he be excused from all delinquincy or default in not having effected the full and complete settlement of the Taxes by him to have been received or collected according to law.

The following Bye law was passed by the Town and ordered to be laid before the Court of Sessions for confirmation.

It is hereby ordered that no person shall hereafter saw any fire wood, or pile the same, upon the foot walks of any of the Streets, or lanes of this Town; and that no person shall stand on any such footwalk, with wood saw or horse, to the hindrance or obstruction of any foot passenger, under a penalty of one dollar for each and every of said offences.

And it is hereby ordered, that no person shall throw or cause to be thrown, any snow from the top of any house into the street, after the hour of nine O'Clock in the forenoon; and every person who shall throw or cause to be thrown any snow from the roof of any building, shall have the same removed from the footwalk and spread evenly in the [21] Street. And every person who shall offend in either of these respects shall forfeit and pay the sum of two dollars for each and every offence.

Adjourned to Monday the first day of August next — 10 O'Clock A.M.

At a Convention of the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health, of the Town of Boston, held in Faneuil Hall on the 22[d] day of June A D 1814–5 O'Clock P.M.

Charles Bulfinch Esq[r]. Chairman.

The Law of the Commonwealth requiring a Majority of each Board to be present at the Election of Town Treasurer & Collector of taxes; and their not being a Majority of the Members of the Overseers & Board of Health present — The Convention was adjourned to Monday next the 27 Instant — to meet at 4 O'Clock P. M.

Monday June 27[th]. 1814. —
The Convention met according to adjournment.

Present a Majority of each Board.—

Voted to proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing & that Major Tilden and Col[o]. Robinson be a Committee to collect sort & count the votes.

The Committee reported that the whole [22] number of votes were 23 and that Andrew Sigourney Esq[r]. was unanimously chosen.

The Convention then proceeded to the choice of a Collector of taxes — and Andrew Sigourney Esquire was declared to be unanimously elected.

M[r]. Sigourney appeared before the Convention — declared his acceptance of the offices of Town Treasurer & Collector of taxes for the year ensuing — and proposed George Blanchard & Benjamin Weld Esquires as his Bondsmen.

Mess[rs]. Hunnewell, Webster & Whitman, were appointed a Committee to consider the responsibility of the Gentlemen offered by M[r]. Sigourney as his Bondsmen.

The Committee reported as their opinion, that the sureties offered by M[r]. Sigourney were ample & sufficient — which report was accepted — And the same Committee were directed to take bonds of M[r]. Sigourney in the sum of twenty thousand dollars as Treasurer, and the further sum of twenty thousand dollars as Collector of taxes for the year ensuing.

Then the Convention was Dissolved.

[23.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4[th] day of July A. D. 1814 — 9 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Thomas Clark was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported — that they had chosen Benjamin Whitwell Esquire — who has accepted the appointment.

Adjourned to meet at the old South Church — 12 O'Clock.—

Met at the Old South Church where the Oration was delivered by Benjamin Whitwell Esquire to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted — That the Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Benjamin Whitwell, Esq^{r}. in the name of the Town, & thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners and principles, which produced the great national event, and the important & happy effects, general and domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch; and to request of him a copy for the press. —

[24.] Voted — That the Gentlemen Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th. day of July 1815 — That day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider, the feelings, manners, and principles which led to this great national event, as well as the important and happy effects, whether general or domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston on Monday the 1st. day of August A D 1814, held by Adjournment from the 24th. day of May — At Faneuil Hall — 10 O'Clock A M. —

Stephen Codman, Esq^{r}.
Moderator.

On motion—Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the fifth day of September next—then to meet at this place 10 O'Clock, A M.—

Adjourned accordingly.—

[25.] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Saturday the 3^{d}. day of September A D 1814—10 O'Clock A.M.

Hon^{ble}. Thomas Dawes, Esquire was chosen Moderator.

This Meeting was called by William Wetmore, Esquire, a Justice of the Peace for the County of Suffolk in consequence of the following petition—viz—

To the Honourable *William Wetmore* a Justice of the Peace for the County of Suffolk.

Respectfully represent—The Subscribers being more than Ten of the Freeholders of the Town of Boston, that the Selectmen of the Town of Boston have been requested in writing by Ten or more of the Freeholders of said Town to call a Town meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of providing means of defence in the present exposed and dangerous situation of this *Town and that the Selectmen have unreasonably denied to call a meeting upon this public occasion;* Whereupon your petitioners request your honour by Warrant under your hand & Seal directed to a Constable or Constables of said Town directing him or them to notify & warn the Inhabitants qualified to vote in Town affairs to assemble at such time & place in said Town as your Honour shall in said Warrant direct and for the Purpose in said warrant expressed.—

Monday Aug^{t}. 29. 1814—signed Winslow Lewis & sixty-two other Citizens.—

[**26.**] Commonwealth of Massachusetts }
Suffolk ss }

To the Constables of the Town of Boston in the said County and to any of them — Greeting

[SEAL] Whereas it has been represented in writing to me, one of the Justices of the peace in & for the said County, that the Selectmen of Boston aforesaid, unreasonably deny to call a meeting of the Inhabitants of said town being upon a publick occasion, to take into consideration "the expediency of providing means of defence in the present exposed & dangerous situation of the said town"; which representation is signed by more than Ten of the Inhabitants & freeholders of said town, and is hereunto annexed.

Now you the said Constables are hereby required in the name of the said Commonwealth, to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the said town, qualified to vote in town affairs to assemble at Faneuil Hall in said town on Saturday the third day of September next, at ten o'Clock in the forenoon then & there to take into consideration the subject of said representation & petition, and to adopt such measures as they may deem expedient in the premises. Given under my hand & seal at Boston aforesaid the twenty ninth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred & fourteen.

W^{m}. Wetmore.

The Inhabitants were legally warned by

Walter Crosby Constable.—

[27.] The proceedings of the Selectmen upon the above petition, taken from the minutes is as follows. viz.

Town of Boston

At a Meeting of the Selectmen, August 24th. 1814,

A Petition was presented, signed by a number of the Inhabitants, requesting that a Town meeting should be called forthwith, to take into consideration the expediency of providing for the immediate defence of the Town and Harbour.—

The subject having been considered, it was voted, that we do not think it expedient to call a meeting of the town for the purposes expressed in the Petition; and Ordered, that the following reasons of our opinions be entered on the Records of the Board, viz.

In the present unhappy circumstances of our country, the Selectmen of the Town of Boston feel the fullest confidence in the wisdom, patriotism and prudence of his Excellency the Commander in Chief, and in the watchful care & attention of the Commissioners appointed by him for the defences of the State.

Especially we are sensible of the correctness of their views in the dispositions made for the defence of this Town; which have been communicated to the Board by said Commissioners in several conferences with them, & in their letter to the Board of 30 June [28] last; under the conviction we feel it our duty to rely, with perfect confidence, on our Rulers; and not by calling a meeting of the Inhabitants, to excite alarm; and in the presence of the Governour and Council, and of the Commissioners of known military experience, to interfere with their duties, or imply any doubt of the wisdom of their measures.

By order of the Selectmen

Charles Bulfinch Chairman.

The Petition and Warrant for calling the Meeting having been read

The following Resolutions were (nearly) unanimously adopted by the Town, viz.—

Whereas, in the progress of the present unhappy war, it has become manifest, that the destruction of the public Ships & naval arsenals in the various ports in the United States is a principal object of the enemy, & therefore this Town notwithstanding its uniform disapprobation of the measures which led to this calamity, & its endeavours to avert it, may be exposed to danger from an enterprise against the ships of War, which are now lying in our port, without any adequate means of protection & defence furnished by the National Government; and,

Whereas, we entertain a full confidence that the Executive Government of this Commonwealth has been & still is occupied in preparing all the means & resources, which are at its disposal, for defending this port & Town, from an invasion; [29] and we moreover believe that the brave & disciplined militia of this and the neighbouring Counties which are ready at the shortest

notice to repair to any point of attack, will present to an invading foe a superiority in number to any force, which is yet known to be upon our coast; yet as in times of great & eminent danger, extraordinary exertion & alacrity become the duty of the Citizen, & it may be acceptable to his Excellency the Governour to receive the assurance that the Citizens of Boston, "in the times which try mens souls," are as they have been ready to aid, by their manual labour & pecuniary contributions, and by all the ways & means in their power, in promoting and making effectual any measures of defence, which may be devised by the proper authority;

Therefore Resolved, that the Citizens of this Town cherish an undiminished confidence in the disposition of the Governour & Council to organize and hold in readiness, for the defence of this town & its vicinity, a competent portion of the force under his command, and are persuaded that such measures have been and will be adopted, to prepare for any great emergency, as will justify the reliance placed by their fellow Citizens upon their vigilance & solicitude, for the safety & honour of the Commonwealth.—

Resolved, that we will cheerfully and cordially co-operate with his Excellency, in any measures, that may be devised, for the defence of the Capital, in which our services may be useful; and, that we will whenever [30] in his opinion the occasion may require, make prompt and effective arrangements for the employment of all clases of our Citizens, in the construction of fortifications or other means of defence, and for obtaining from patriotic individuals voluntary loans and contributions of money to be applied to these objects.

Resolved, that while we deplore the evils and calamities of a war, in the production of which, we were in no wise instrumental, we are not dismayed by the aspect of the force, which is employed against us, nor do we despair of our Country. "United we stand divided we fall" and we are strong in the assurance, that the courage, resources, experience, and patriotism of our Country, will yet surmount the Evils and the Perils which surround us, and transmit to posterity, our Union and Liberties strengthened by a recollection of Errors and dangers and a disposition to learn Wisdom from misfortune.—

Resolved, that the Moderator of this meeting be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions, certified by the Town Clerk, to his Excellency the Governour.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[31.] At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston held (by adjournment) at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5th day of September A. D. 1814 — 10 O'Clock A M.

Stephen Codman, Esqr.

Moderator.—

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Mr. William Biglow, late Master of the latin School in Boston, requesting the Town of Boston to make him a grant, on account of his services and extra labours in his said employment as master of the latin School in said Town — as by the vote of said Town, at their meeting on the 24th. of May last appears.—

Have attended that service and ask leave to report.

That in consideration of the high price of almost all the articles of living for several years past, and at the time said Bigelow has been employed a schoolmaster by the said Town — The great inconveniences said Bigelow suffered for nearly one year, while the New School house was building in School street, at which period he was obliged to keep his said School in places extremely inconvenient, and also was deprived of any advantages from his private school, which came in aid of his support — the great exertions made by said Biglow, to accomplish the wishes of the Town, in perfecting his said latin School as appeared to this Committee, from the Certificates of many of his Ushers in said School — And the great [32] disappointment to said Biglow, in not being continued in his said employment in said School, by the School Committee of said town, and also the low compensation to said Biglow for his services in said employment, by the said Town for several years past — The said Committee recommend to the said town of Boston, that they should pass the following votes & order — viz, Ordered that there be paid out of the Treasury of the Town of Boston, to Mr. Wm. Biglow, late master of the latin School in said Town, The sum of five hundred dollars, which sum, with what he has heretofore received, is to be in full for all his services, as master of the latin School in said Town of Boston, and inconveniences he may have suffered while in said employment.— and the Treasurer of said Town is hereby directed to pay the same accordingly. —

All which is respectfully submitted

Benj. Whitman, per Order.

Boston July 15th. 1814.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted by the Town.

The Committee appointed by the Town of Boston at a legal Meeting on the 24th. of May 1814 to take into consideration the subject of the delinquincy of their late Treasurer and Collector William Smith Esqr. and report on the expediency of Commencing a prosecution against said Collector or his bondsmen, [33] have considered the important business assigned them, & make the following report.—

The system adopted by the town for the collection of their taxes during the first seven years that Mr. Smith was in office, was found to be so defective, that a considerable loss, was, annually, inevitable. — That system was in part corrected in 1810 and by the report of a respectable Committee it appears, that

they attributed the delinquency *then*, to the imperfection of the system and not to the negligence or misconduct of the Collector. — In that report although the Committee recommended the enjoining of a more prompt collection of the taxes, yet they also recommended, that the Collectors duties should be performed with as much discretion and lenity, as the nature & urgency of the demands would permit. The Town accepted that report, and by so doing, as your Committee believe, discharged their Collector, at least from the duty of distraining or prosecuting, unless in cases where there was a reasonable expectation of obtaining the sums due. —

Your Committee are satisfied that the Collector conformed, according to the best of his judgement to the spirit of the report.

By the report of the Committee of finance in May 1814 it appears, that there was over from outstanding taxes from the year 1804 to 1813 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $86,361.74

[34] of which sum Mr. Smith collected before he left the office, viz, from May to July 1813 - - - - - - $6,765.81

And the present Collector had collected of that sum previous to May 1814 - - - - - - - - - $8,535.93

The assessors had abated for causes unknown to your Committee - - - - - - - - $52,479.82

which left a balance outstanding & unabated in May 1814 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 18,580.18

of this sum a part has been, & probably more will be collected; but what proportion will be ultimately lost by the Town, cannot be now known to the Committee.

A considerable part of this sum was, in the opinion of the Committee assessed on persons who ought not to have been taxed; or on persons who could not be found when the tax bills were given to the Collector; and although some loss may be sustained in consequence of the lenity of the Collector, exercised in virtue of the aforesaid accepted report, the Committee do not believe that it will be very great. — If the Collector did the best in his power to collect the taxes, & honestly used the discretion delegated to him by the Town, whatever loss may have happened ought to be borne by the town and not by the Collector or his bondsmen.

It appears by the reports of the annual Committees (which reports have been accepted by the town) that the late Treasurer and Collector [35] has faithfully paid over all the money he had collected; and as the situation of the outstanding taxes was always stated in those reports, your Committee think that the annual re-election of the same officer, was an implied approbation of his conduct. — Upon consideration of all these circumstances, and also that the tax books at the time of the appointment of a new Collector were taken out of the hands of the late Collector,

whereby he was deprived of all controul over the taxes, it is the opinion of the Committee that the loss sustained by the town cannot be imputed to the personal negligence or misconduct of the Collector, and that it is not expedient to institute any prosecution against the said Smith or his sureties upon the bonds given to the Town. — The Committee have not taken into view the amount of taxes which have been abated by the assessors, viz., $52,479.82, because in abating this amount the assessors exercised a power vested in them, and not subject to the control of the late Collector. — And the Committee suppose that abatements would not have been made excepting where taxes had been assessed on persons not liable to taxation, or on persons who were unable to pay. And the Committee have therefore limited their investigation to the sum not outstanding and unabated viz. $18,580.18 — All which is respectfully submitted.
Boston August 1814.

Step. Codman
W^m. Sullivan
W. H. Sumner
Ab^m. W. Fuller
Tho. W. Sumner

[**36.**] The foregoing Report was read, considered and accepted by the Town.

Voted, that in order to carry into effect the recommendations of the report of the Committee of finance, accepted by the Town, at the meeting on the 24^th^. day of May last, That the Treasurer be empowered to borrow of individuals or of public institutions, a sum not exceeding Seventy thousand Dollars, to discharge the outstanding debts of the Town.

Voted, that William Smith, William Phillips, Redford Webster, Thomas Perkins, Samuel Snelling Ozias Goodwin, William Mackay, Joseph Coolidge, j^r^ Joseph Richards, Bryant P. Tilden, Ephraim Eliot and Jonathan Phillips Esquires, chosen by the Town Overseers of the Poor in March last, be empowered to Act as Overseers of the work house & house of Correction in this Town; with all the power conferred on Overseers by the laws of this Commonwealth passed March 1788, entitled "an Act for suppressing and punishing Rogues, Vagabonds, common Begars, and other idle, disorderly & lewd persons" and also by another law passed January 1789, entitled an Act for erecting work houses, for the reception and employment of the idle and indigent.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator, for his services at this Meeting

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[37.] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified to vote for Representatives in the General Court of this Commonwealth, at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 7th. day of November A D 1814 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by Revd. Doctr. Lathrop.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraphs of a Resolve of the General Court for choosing one Representative in the Congress of the United States for the District of Suffolk — read

The Inhabitants were informed that the Poll would be closed at half past 10 O'Clock.

Persons voted for as Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States, viz,

Honl. Artemus Ward Esqr. - - - -	1112
Daniel Sargent Esqr. - - - -	1
Andrew Richie Esqr. - - - -	2
Joseph P. Bradlee - - - - -	1
James T. Austin - - - - -	1
Wm. H. Sumner Esqs. - - - -	1
	1118.—

And declaration made thereof by the Selectmen in Publick Town Meeting

A return of the doings of this Meeting was made out (conformable to the printed direction of the General Court) and forwarded by the Town Clerk to the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as the Law directs.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

1815.

[38.] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston qualified as the law directs, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 13th. day of March A D 1815 — 10 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by the Revd. Doctr. Baldwin —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Law respecting the Election of Town officers — read. —

Hon[l]. John Phillips Esq[r]. was chosen Moderator.

Thomas Clark was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing and the oath of office was administered to him by the Moderator.

Jonathan Hunnewell	Robert Williams
Joseph Foster	Elisha Ticknor
Joseph Lovering	Josiah Bachelder
Joseph Austin	Joseph Tilden and

Jacob Hiler Esq[rs].

were chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to Thursday next 10 O'Clock A M.

[39.] Thursday March 16[th]. 1815.
The Town met according to adjournment.

The Gentlemen chosen Selectmen on Monday last having declined accepting the appointment —

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee, at the request of the Moderator, to assist him in receiving, sorting & counting the Votes for Selectmen — viz —

Arnold Welles	Joseph Coolidge jun[r].
Nathan Webb	John Wood and
Benj[n]. Smith	Andrew Sigourney Esquires
Benj[n]. Russell	

The Inhabitants were then requested to bring in their votes for nine Selectmen for the year ensuing — The votes being received sorted & counted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen had a majority of all the votes given in & were declared Elected by the Moderator, viz.

Charles Bulfinch	Joseph Lovering
Ebenezer Oliver	Joseph Austin
Jonathan Hunnewell	Robert Williams and
Joseph Foster	Edmund Hart Esquires
Benjamin Weld	

Adjourned tomorrow morning 10 O'Clock.

[40.] Friday March 17[th].
Met according to adjournment.

Seven of the Gentlemen elected Selectmen appeared & took their seats, M[r]. Lovering & M[r]. Hart were absent

M[r]. Bulfinch having addressed the Moderator & declared acceptance of the office to which he had been elected.— The Moderator administered the oath to him & the six other Selectmen present — whereupon it was moved & voted unanimously,

that the address of Charles Bulfinch Esq^{r}., declaring his acceptance as a member of the Board of Selectmen for the year ensuing, & prior to his taking the oath of office, be published in all the News papers printed in the Town of Boston.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Nathan Webb Esq^{r}. for his faithful services as one of the Selectmen for seven years past.

William Smith	William Mackay
William Phillips	Joseph Coolidge Jun^{r}.
Redford Webster	Joseph Richards
Thomas Perkins	Jonathan Phillips
Sam^{l}. Snelling	Samuel May and
Ozias Goodwin	Jacob Hall Esquires

were elected Overseers of the Poor, and Overseers of the Work house for the year ensuing

[41.] Voted, that the thanks of the Town be given to Bryant P. Tilden & Ephraim Eliot Esq^{rs}., for their faithful services as Overseers of the Poor for several years past.

Thomas Melvill	Samuel M. Thayer
And^{w}. Cunningham	Joseph Tilden
John Winslow	Joseph Austin
Stephen Codman	Joseph Lovering
Jonathan Hunnewell	Benj^{a}. Rich
Daniel Messenger	Gedney King
William Sullivan	Francis J Oliver
Benj^{a}. Smith	William Harris
Nath^{l}. Curtis	John D Williams
Edward Cruft	John Winslow Jun^{r}.
James Phillips	Jonathan Loring and
Nathan Webb	John Mackay Esquires —

were chosen Firewards for the year ensuing.—

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to Bryant P. Tilden and George Blanchard Esquires for their faithful services as Firewards for several years past.

Voted, That in Addition to the Selectmen twelve [42] persons shall now be chosen a *School Committee;* and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — viz —

Rev^{d}. Charles Lowell	Charles Davis
Rev^{d}. Horace Holley	John Heard jun^{r}.
Rev^{d}. Samuel Cary	Peter O. Thacher
Doct^{r}. Aaron Dexter	William Smith
Doct^{r}. Thomas Welsh	Francis J. Oliver and
Doct^{r}. John C. Warren	William Welles Esquires

Voted, That the abovenamed Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the system of Education adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage & regulate the Government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools & School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the Laws of the Commonwealth or by votes of the Town to exercise.

Messrs. Benjamin White
John Cogswell
William Clouston
William Ellison
Nathl. Bradlee
Noah Dogget
Bradock Loring
Thomas Christie
William Green

[43.] Eleazer Homer
Joseph Stodder
Allen Bowker
William Ellison junr.
Nathl. Glover
John Howe junr.
Richard Thayer
Edwd. J. Robbins
Henry Blake
Joseph Tucker and
Moses Ayres Junr.

were chosen Surveyors of Boards and other Lumber for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purkit
John Smith
Nathl. Howe and
Benjamin Clark

were chosen cullers of Hoops and Staves.

Messrs. Thomas Barbour
Nathl. Howe
Benj. Clark
Gershom Spear
Charles Pook
John Bannister
John Smith
Benja. Owen
James Brown
William J. Hammatt and
Thomas Lambord

were chosen cullers of Dry Fish

Messrs. Benjamin White
Nathaniel Bradlee and
William Ellison

were chosen Fence Viewers.

Messrs. Barney Sloan, Joseph Champney, Joseph Selaway & Samuel Spear (for South Boston) were chosen Hogreeves and Haywwards. —

[44.] Samuel Emmons, and
James Phillips Esquires, —

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

Edward Tuckerman and
Josiah Snelling Esquires,

were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

Messrs. John Wells and
Richard Austin,
were Chosen Assay Masters

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of Highway.

Messrs. Michael Homer,
Francis James, and
Samuel Sprague,
were chosen Inspectors of Lime.

Neddy Curtis,
chosen Pound Keeper. —

Votes — for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk were received by the Moderator & Town Clerk; when it appeared that there were one hundred & forty-five Votes for John Winslow Esqr.

Voted, That Stephen Codman, Francis J. Oliver & John Osborn Esquires be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor & Workhouse, and the Board of Health. And said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

[45.] Voted — That the consideration of all Money matters be reffered to the May Meeting.

Voted — That the thanks of the Town be given to the Hon[l]. John Phillips Esquire, for his services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned & Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 3d day of April A. D. 1815. 9 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Channing.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, relative to the choice of Governour, Lietenant Governour & Senators — read. —

Law of the Commonwealth dividing the State into districts for the choice of Senators & Counsellors — read.

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that no printed vote would be received, & that the votes should be put into the Box unfolded.

It was afterwards declared that the Poll should be closed at 2 OClock and that the Bells to begin tolling at half past One O'Clock.

Persons voted for as Governour with the
[46] number of votes for each person — viz

His Excy. Caleb Strong - - - - - -	3135
Hon[l]. Samuel Dexter - - - - - -	1439
John Holmes 1. Geo. Cabot 1. - - -	2
Henry Dearborn 1. Enos Cobb 2. - -	3
	4579

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governour, with the number of votes for each person viz.—

His Honour William Phillips - - - - - -	3151
Hon[l]. William Gray - - - - - - -	1427
Joseph B. Varnum Esq[r]. - - - - - -	1
	4579

Persons voted for as Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person viz.

Hon[l]. John Phillips - - - - - - -	3157
Hon[l]. Harrison G. Otis - - - - - -	3122
Hon[l]. Josiah Quincy - - - - - - -	3088
Hon[l]. Thomas H. Perkins - - - - -	3130
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq[r]. - - - - -	3126
Richard Sullivan Esq[r]. - - - - - -	3135
Samuel Brown Esq[r]. - - - - - - -	1396
Russell Sturgis Esq[r]. - - - - - - -	1392
William Little - - - - - - - - -	1388
Jesse Putnam - - - - - - - - -	1386
Thomas K. Jones - - - - - - - -	1403
D[r]. William Ingalls - - - - - - -	1380
Andrew Ritchie 18. Jos. Hall 16.	
Caleb Bingham 9. Jon[a]. Mason 5.	
James Lloyd 5. Sam[l]. Cobb 11.	
John C. Jones 5. W[m]. Sullivan 2.	
Benj. Austin 2. Horace Holley 3.	
John Wells 4. Caleb Loring 7.	
William Parsons 2. Ja[s]. Loring 2.	
Peter C. Brooks 2. W[m]. Tudor j[r]. 1.	
[47.] Charles Davis 1. — G. Cabot 1.	
J. T. Austin 3. Sylv[r]. Gray 1.	
David Townsend 1. B. Russell 1.	
John Tilden 1. Benj. Rand 1.	

Artemus Ward 1. Tris Barnard 1.
Thos. Baldwin 1. Alexr. H. Everret 1.
James Prince 1. Wm. R. Gray 1.
Danl. Sargent 1. Willm. Brown 1.
Isrl. Thorndike 1. Saml Everret 1.
John Lathrop 1. Aaron Hill 1.
Josiah Snelling 1. Timo. Wiggin 1.—

Attested Copies or return of the Persons voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour, and Senators for the District of Suffolk sealed up in open Town Meeting after the vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law, & directed as follows — viz,

To Alden Bradford Esqr.

Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.—

Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour and Lieutenant Governour, sealed up in open Town Meeting.—
Also for Six Senators for the District of Suffolk, directed in the same manner.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[48.] At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 18th day of May A D 1815 — 10 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by the Revd. Doctr. Gardner.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution relating to the choice of Representatives, & the Law of the Commonwealth regulating Elections — read.—

The return of the Assistant Assessors signifying that the major & minor polls of this Town were 8146 — being also read — The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for Representatives not exceeding Thirty six

Votes were received by the Selectmen untill one O'Clock, when they declared the Poll to be closed.

Upon sorting & counting the votes it appeared that the whole number given in was 571 — necessary to make a choice 286.

The following thirty six Gentlemen had a Majority of all the votes, and were declared to be duly elected Representatives for the year ensuing. viz.

Messrs.	William Smith	Stephen Codman
	James Robinson	Benjamin Russell
[49.]	Charles Davis	Richard Faxon
	Benjamin Whitman	Henry Sargent
	William Hammatt	Thomas Barry
	William H. Sumner	William Harris, Benja.
	George G. Lee	Gorham
	Nathaniel Curtis	Andrew Ritchie Junr.
	Thacher Goddard	John Howe of Ward
	Samuel Dunn	N°. 12.
	John D. Howard	John Bellows
	Lynde Walter	Israel Thorndike Junr.
	Jonathan Loring	Josiah Bachelder
	Jonathan Whitney	Benjamin West, Wm. Sturgis
	Joseph Pierce	William Tudor junr.
	Samuel J. Prescott	George Sullivan
	Andrew Sigourney	Charles P. Phelps and
	Ephraim Thayer	Nathan Appleton

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[50.] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 29th day of May A D 1815 — 10 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Benjamin Weld, Esquire
chosen Moderator.

Edward Tuckerman
Joshua Davis
William Hammatt
Peter O. Thacher
Thomas Dawes and
William Dall Esquires,
were chosen Trustees of Neck lands.

Neddy Curtis, was chosen a Hogreeve for South Boston the year ensuing.

The following Gentlemen were chosen Inspectors of the Markets for the year ensuing.

Messrs.	Thomas Badger - - -	Ward N°. 1
	Samuel Hichborn - -	" 2
	Turrell Tuttle - - - -	" 3

Enoch Patterson - - -	Ward N°.	4
William Tileston - - -	"	5
George W. Otis - - -	"	6
John P. Thorndike - -	"	7
Caleb Hayward - - -	"	8
Isaac P. Simpson - -	"	9
Joseph Allen - - - -	"	10
John Roulston - - -	"	11
Samuel Sprague - - -	"	12

The Committee of Finance made a Report which was read and ordered to be printed, & the further consideration of the same referred to the 12 June next.—

[**51.**] The Article in the Warrant respecting Tythingmen was referred to next March Meeting.

Upon the representation & exhibition of the doings and proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esquire Treasurer & Collector of Taxes of the Town of Boston the last year.

Voted, That the Town of Boston highly approve of the conduct of said Andrew Sigourney Esquire in the said offices of Treasurer & Collector, and that he has faithfully & fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said offices to which he has been appointed as aforesaid, and that he be excused from all delinquincy or default in not having effected the full & complete settlement of the taxes by him to have been received or collected according to Law.—

Voted—That the Selectmen be, and they hereby are empowered, to enter into such engagements with the proprietors of certain lots of land on Boston neck, granted by the Town April 30th. 1785; respect-[ing] the repairs & future maintenance of the Street in front of their lots, as they shall consider for the interest and benefit of the Town.

Voted—That Peter O. Thacher Esqr. be constituted & appointed Agent, in behalf of the Town; to enter upon any of said lots for condition broken, & in behalf of the Town, prosecute any action or actions against any or all of the grantees of said lots, or either of them, their heirs or Assigns for the breach of any covenant or condition [**52**] entered into and made by them or either of them with said Town; and to compound compromise & agree with them or either of them.

Also that said Agent be empowered to repair said street or any part thereof under the direction of the Selectmen, and to recover of said grantees or either of them their proportion of the expences thereof, according to their covenants and agreements or any thing contained in their deed or deeds.—

Adjourned to Monday the 12th. day of June next — to meet at 10 O'Clock A M.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 7th. day of June A D 1815 — 10 O'Clock A M.

Warrant for calling the meeting — read.

Stephen Codman Esqr. Moderator.

The petition of a great number of the Inhabitants "That the Town would take into consideration the expediency of applying to the Legislature for an act incorporating the Town of Boston, and establishing therein a Constitution or frame of Government similar to such as exist [53] in other great cities — was read — and after considerable debate it was

Voted, That a Committee from each ward of two persons be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of making an alteration in the Municipal Government of the Town, and to collect such information, relative to the charters of other cities in the United States as may be in their power and to prepare and report a system of Municipal Government to be adopted by the town, or such improvements in the present system as may be thought best.

Voted, That the Selectmen notify the inhabitants in each Ward to meet on Wednesday the 21st instant at 4 O Clock P. M. to choose two persons in each Ward agreeable to the foregoing vote.

The Committee to be chosen as above directed, are to apply to the Selectmen to call a Town meeting when they are ready to report.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[54.] At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held by adjournment from the 29th. Ultimo at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 12th. day of June A. D. 1815 — 10 O'Clock A. M.

Third Annual Report
of the
Committee of Finance.

The Committee of Finance, of the Town of Boston, composed of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health, agreeably to the powers and instructions received from the Town, have examined the accounts of the Treasurer & Collector for the past year and report as follows.

That there has been received on account of back taxes	4582.26
And of taxes of 1814 to May 20th. 1815	127,870.30
Amount of abatements on 1814 tax	8358.60
	$136228.90

The amount of Warrants for taxes of 1814 were

State tax	20,681.33
County tax	26,788.85
Town tax	89,000
	$136,470.18

But the amount assessed with the addition allowed by Law to anticipate probable abatements, was	$142,285.10
Sum collected and abated	136,228.90
Leaving ballance uncollected	$6,056.20

The Committee in exhibiting this deficiency in the Collection between the first of October and 20th. of May, feel confident [55] that the Town will not impute any neglect to the Treasurer & Collector nor any unwarrantable remissness on the part of the Citizens; when the peculiar hardships and stagnation of Business of the past year are considered. It has been with the advice of the Committee, that the Collector has forborne to urge the settlement of the above with the rigour of the Law: the property of many of the persons owing the above balance is so circumstanced, that if pressed, the whole must have been abated; but the Treasurer is of opinion that $4000 may be collected of the outstanding taxes, and considered in this years estimate.

The following is a Statement of the Towns Debts and Credits.

TOWN OF BOSTON.

Dr.		Cr.	
On State tax	10000.	By Notes for Land	12163.78
County tax	23806.09	Due for State Poor	7000.
due to Banks	32500.	taxes receivable	4000.
Private Notes	30000.07		23163.78
Mrs. Brookers donation interest pd. annually for sick and Widows	1230.	Cash in the Treasury.	24932.25
J. Bradlee for Oil	8346.62		$48096.03
Drafts unpaid	400.09		
	$106282.87		
Unliquidated Accots.	5700.		
	$111982.87		

The foot of the Account Current of the Town last year was - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	119528.32
The above Statement the present year shows it to be - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	111982.87
And exhibits the Amount of debt reduced - - -	$7545.45
The amount of outstanding debts was - - - - -	$70000.
Which being reduced this year by - - - - - -	7545.45
Leaves the present actual debt - - - - - - - -	62454.55

[**56.**] The Committee have found that their recommendation of a reduction of the debt of 14000 dollars p annum, could not be carried into full effect, owing to unusual expences that have arisen in consequence of the War; and also owing to the advanced price of oil and other articles for Towns use, from the same cause.

They feel gratified that in the peculiar circumstances of the times, the debt has not been increased but diminished 7545 dollars.—

They recommend in addition to a provision of 14000 dollars sinking fund this year, that 7000 dollars be added, to make up the deficiency of the last year. This system being steadily pursued will discharge the debt in four years.—

The demand on the Town being as above stated -	$111982.87
add thereto for current expences of the year, Selectmen 60000 Overseers 25000 Board of Health 6000 - - - - - - - - - - - - -	91000.
Amount of State tax - - - - - - - - - - -	24000.
D°. County tax - - - - - - - - - - -	22000.
The interest on outstanding debts deferred - - -	3017.13
The whole amount to be provided for - - - - -	$252000.00
From which deduct three Installments of old debt each of 14000 dollars to be paid in three succeeding years - - - - - - - - - - - -	42000.
	$210000.

To be provided for as follows;	
From money in the Treasury - - - - - - - -	24932.25
Notes for Land &c falling due - - - - - - - -	12163.78
From Commonwealth for Poor - - - - - - - -	13000.
Rents as received last year - - - - - - - -	11000.
Taxes receivable — outstanding - - - - - - -	4000.
	$65096.3

[57.] Brought forward - - - - - - - - -		$65096.3
Amount assessed for State tax - - - - - - - -		24000.
D°. for County tax - - - - - - - - - -		22000.
D°. for Town Tax - - - - - -	75000	
For Installment of debt - - - - - -	21000	
For Interest on deffered — D°. - -	2903.97	
		98,903.97
		$210,000.

The Committee have thus endeavored to condense the substance of the Treasurers accounts, and to present to the Town as they were directed to do, "a clear and well defined statement of their monied concerns." — They renewedly express their satisfaction in the order and method pursued by the Treasurer and Collector; and in being able to inform the Town, that every demand from every individual has been discharged on the orders passed by the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health, except only 400 dollars which have not been called for: such punctuality and promptness of payment cannot fail to raise the credit of the Town Treasurer, and to enable the Boards, who have the expenditure of the public Money, to obtain their work and supplies on the most favourable terms.

The Committee respectfully report, that the Town should vote a tax of ninety nine thousand dollars, for the current expences of the year, and for the payment of the second installment of the deferred debt.

Respectfully submitted,
By order of the Committee of Finance
May 29th. 1815. Charles Bulfinch, Chairman.

[58.] The foregoing Report was accepted — And
Voted, That the sum of ninety nine thousand dollars be raised by a Tax on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town, to defray the expences of the Town the present year & to discharge part of the deferred debt.—

Voted — That the further sum of ten thousand dollars be assessed, to cover any deficiency that may arise from abatements, or errors in assessing the taxes.

The following Report was received from the Auditors of the Towns Accounts, & the Treasurers Account referred to in the Report, is on file.—

We the Subscribers, appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer, agreeably to a vote passed by the town of Boston on the 17th. day of March 1815. have performed that service and have received from Andrew Sigourney Esqr., the

Treasurer, the aforegoing account, which the Committee have examined and find the same right cast and well vouched, and that there results a balance of twenty four thousand, nine hundred thirty two Dollars, twenty five cents, in the hands of the Treasurer; belonging to the Town.
Boston 22d. May 1815.

Stephen Codman
Francis J. Oliver } Auditors.
John Osborn

[59.] Voted, That the sum of seven hundred & fifty dollars be allowed and paid unto Hon[l]. Thomas Dawes Esq[r]., for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the ensuing year.

Voted — That there be allowed & paid the sum of One thousand Dollars unto Thomas Clark Town Clerk, as his salary for the year ensuing. —

Voted, That there be allowed & paid unto each of the Assessors, the sum of Eight hundred and sixteen dollars each for their services the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto Andrew Sigourney Esquire, the sum of three Thousand Dollars, in full for his services as Town Treasurer and Collector of taxes, for Clerk hire and all expences in the delivery of tax bills and collection of taxes.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[60.] At a Convention of the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, of the Town of Boston, held [in] Faneuil Hall on Monday the 26 day of June A.D. 1815 — 4 o'Clock P.M.

Present a Majority of each Board.

Voted to proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing, and that Mess[rs]. Jacob Hall & Darius Boardman be a Committee to collect, sort and count the votes.

The Committee reported that the whole number of votes for a Town Treasurer were 21 and that Andrew Sigourney Esq[r]. was unanimously chosen.

The Convention proceeded to the choice of a Collector of Taxes for the present year, and Andrew Sigourney Esq[r]. was unanimously elected.

Mess[rs]. Oliver, Perkins and Whitman were appointed a Committe to qualify the Treasurer & Collector, by taking two bonds for twenty thousand dollars each & having the Oath of office administered to him.

Jonathan Hunnewell & Benjamin [blank] Esquires were approved as Bondsmen for the Treasurer & Collector.

Then the Convention was Dissolved.

[**61.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall the 4[th]. day of July A. D. 1815 — 10 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Thomas Clark was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence Reported, That they had chosen Lemuel Shaw Esq[r]. who had accepted the appointment.

Adjourned to meet at the Old South Church at 12 O'Clock — M.

Met at the Old South Church where an Oration was delivered by Lemuel Shaw Esquire to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted — That the Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Lemuel Shaw Esq[r]., in the name of the Town & thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners, & principles which produced the great national event, and the important and happy effects, general & domestic, which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch; and to request of him a copy for the press.

[**62.**] Voted — That the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4[th]. day of July 1816. That day being the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners, & principles which led to this great national event, as well as the important and happy effects, whether general or domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.—

At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 5th. day of October A.D. 1815 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Jonathan Humnewell Esquire, chosen Moderator.

This Meeting was called upon the application of a number of the Inhabitants, "That the Town would take measures to supply each member of the militia with provisions for two days, at the inspection & review ordered at Dedham on the 10th, & 11th. instant, & also to furnish a sufficient number of waggons to transport the tents & baggage."

The application together with a communication from the Selectmen on the same subject being read.

It was moved & Voted, That the Selectmen be desired to confer with the Lieut. Colonels commanding [**63**] the three Regiments of the Boston Brigade, & the Brigade Quartermaster; to ascertain from them the number of men who will be on duty, at the ensuing inspection and review; and that they be authorized & empowered to furnish, at the expense of the Town, suitable rations for two days, to all the non-commissioned officers and men who may be *actually on duty;* and such a number of Waggons as shall be necessary for tents, straw & baggage. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 16th. day of October A.D. 1815 — 10 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant calling the Meeting — read.

Honble. John Phillips Esqr. chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the expediency of making an alteration in the municipal government of the Town, having performed the duty enjoined upon them by their fellow citizens ask leave to present the result of their deliberations in the form of a Bill, which they recommend the Representatives of the town should be instructed to obtain to be enacted as nearly as possible, by the General Court.

[**64.**] Your Committee have adopted this mode as the most simple and as being likely to be the most satisfactory, inasmuch as it presents to the town the precise form, which the alterations, if adopted, will ultimately assume, and will thus give a more clear idea of the nature of them, than would probably result from any other course.

In relation to the principles of those alterations, which the Bill here presented contemplates, the committee ask leave to state, that being aware of the difficult nature of the subject submitted to their consideration, they have limited their endeavours to the attainment of such practical alterations, as utility seemed to suggest, and to which the wishes of the immediate petitioners seemed directed. — They have therefore not proposed any general alterations in the established constitution, any farther than was necessary to effect the advantages sought, consistent with the preservation of all the boards which do now, and have so long, with so much honour to the respective members of those boards and so much benefit to the town, presided over its concerns. The Selectmen, the Board of Overseers of the Poor, and the Board of Health will be preserved as they now exist, except so far as they may be affected by those alterations your Committee have deemed it advisable to propose.

[**65.**] A course of this kind seemed not only the wisest; but in a measure rendered necessary, by the general relations, which the town of Boston bears to the other towns in the Commonwealth. The forms of proceeding of those boards are settled and familiar to all our citizens; their relations to one another are well defined and understood, their existence is associated with our habits and our affections.

By attempting to change all these in conformity to some chosen or theoretic model of City government; little advantage would be gained and much would be lost from the natural apprehensions which all men have of the effect of entirely novel arrangements upon their great interests. The result of the opinion of your committee not to supersede any of the existing Boards has been strengthened by the consideration that a board of Selectmen is rendered necessary by the letter of the constitution in every town in this commonwealth. Indeed the very name of town, associated with certain municipal proceedings is also rendered necessary by the terms of that instrument. So that the continuance of that board with its present name and with many of its present powers, is unadvoidable.

With respect the overseers of the Poor and the board of Health, any attempt to change their constitution seemed less advisable, inasmuch [**66**] as the powers exercised and the duties performed by them are often exercised, even in cities regularly organized by bodies of Commissioners in effect but little differing from independent boards. For these reasons your committee have deemed it expedient to propose only such modification of the municipal powers as should in each instance, have a distinct object, the advantage of which might be demonstrated.

In contemplating in this light, the various powers exercised within the town, your committee could not refrain from being affected with very sensible pleasure at perceiving how few modifications were necessary, in the frame of the existing town constitution, in order to secure for the citizens all the advantages they

could hope from the most formal city organization. — Some of these were indeed of an important character. But as it respects the great mass of the requisite powers, they were already so arranged and deposited, as to leave little to wish or expect from any alteration in them.

In the first place, the Judiciary authority exercised within the town, consisting of a Court of common Pleas, and a Municipal Court embraces, within the sphere of their jurisdiction all the powers of that nature, and in a form as select and advantageous as any other arrangement could offer, or which might be devised.

In most cities, these powers are in part, or in [67] whole, exercised by the mayor, or chief executive offices of the city. But there seems to be no particular advantage in thus combining the chief executive and judicial powers in one officer. And in the actual state of the feelings and habits of the citizens of Boston, it is probable that a scheme of municipal government, which should keep the executive and judiciary powers, exercised within the town, in distinct hands, would be more satisfactory to them, than an arrangement, which should deposit both in the hands of a single individual. Should the chief executive of our city be vested with judiciary powers, his appointment by the executive of the state, under the provisions of our state constitution, would be inevitable. It seems however, desirable that this officer should be connected with the inhabitants of our city by ties, less independent than would result from his appointment by the executive of the state. To the mass of his fellow citizens he ought, at least immediately, to owe his election. To them, or to that body whom they may choose in this case to represent them, such an officer ought to be bound by all that sense of responsibility, which naturally results from the consciousness of his being indebted to their suffrages for his election. The system which your committee propose contains therefore no change in judiciary powers now exercised within the town, except so far as relates to the selection of three Justices, and the establishment of a Police Court. [68] In forming this Court, however, it will be perceived, that it is not proposed to interfere with the existing powers of a Justice of Peace, but that the powers of the Police Court should be co-extensive and concurrent with those of Justices of the peace. It is not proposed to authorise any preference to be exercised among the acting Justices; but that each in his turn should act as a member of the Police Court. The great advantage contemplated by this arrangement is, that in a court consisting of three members, acting under the authority of the government of the town, in a publick place, and subject to the concourse of all the citizens, more order, regularity, correctness and uniformity of proceeding would result, than from a court holden by a single Justice in a private room, without any responsibility, but what is of the most general nature. It is known that great complaints of abuses of their authority by justices of the peace have at all times existed: And without meaning to sanc-

tion the idea, that these complaints have been in all or in many cases well founded your committee have deemed it expedient if possible to give the justices of the peace an opportunity to exercise their offices in a manner more publick and responsible, and which, without interfering with their emoluments as on the scheme proposed, those of the police court would be equally shared by all, would give greater weight & dignity to their office, [**69**] and proceedings. — In examining the present constituted authorities of the town with reference to improvements in their organization and powers of which they were deemed susceptible, your committee have considered that something would be gained by enlarging for merely municipal purposes, the number proposed, the number of which the superintending board at present consists, and causing the election of their additional numbers to be made in the respective wards and not by the town at large. This would secure for the superintending board more local knowledge & responsibility than at present exist in it: The inhabitants of each ward, most distinguished for their acquaintance with its particular interests would be thus probably selected for this office, and thus the greatest assurance would result that the interest of every ward would be duly considered: An assurance which would not result from election from any general ticket, in which the wishes of each ward cannot be distinctly attained, inasmuch as the whole election is controuled by the result of the general voice.

The first specific alteration proposed by your committee, is that leaving the election of Selectmen to depend upon the general voice, as at present regulated by law, that *two delegates* shall be chosen at the respective ward Meetings in April, and these together with the Selectmen, should constitute the superintending board, in which should be invested all the powers relative to the town [**70**] interests and management of its concerns, except such as are vested exclusively in the board of Selectmen by the constitution of the state.

The next alteration proposed by the committee, relates to the chief executive of the town. the executive power eficiently exists at present in a superintendent of police, who is chosen by the Selectmen out of their own body & receiving a salary dependent upon their discretion and responsible solely to them; Relative to this officer your committee recommend that he should hereafter be elected by a convention to be held annually by the board of Selectmen and delegates, the board of overseers of the poor and the board of health. It will be unnecessary for the committee to dilate on the advantages to be anticipated from such an organization, as the Selectmen and overseers of the poor are elected by the general voice of the town. The board of health & delegates by the voice of the wards. It seems impossible for any greater security to result for a wise selection of the superintending executive officer, one, in which general and local influences and wishes would be more likely to be consulted, than what would result from an election

made by a body composed of men thus chosen. This officer your committee have proposed should be called "The Intendant" a name borne by the officer in the same station in the city of Charleston South Carolina, and implying the duties which he is to execute. Except in the particulars above [71] mentioned your committee have not deemed it necessary to propose any alteration in the organization of the town government. They have however proposed that the corporate name should be "The Intendant and Municipality of the Town and City of Boston." They have been induced to suggest this alteration for the purpose of expressing truly and distinctly the nature of the corporation, which will be in effect, the union of town and city authorities in one general government or municipality. For reasons mentioned in a preceeding part of this report the names of "Town," "Town Clerk," "Selectmen" are made so essential by the provisions of the state constitution, as that they are for certain purposes specified in it, absolutely indispensable. Under the proposed system town meetings will continue to be held and all questions relative to our political rights & interests to be discussed in them: A course of proceedings happily as inseparable from the genius of our constitution as it is justly dear to the affections of our citizens. The name of "City" is added, because the delegation of powers & the organization of the government will be that of a city, with the names of its officers accomodated to our circumstances and habits. Besides, your committee find that a very great number of our citizens wish that the name of city should be adopted; being of opinion, that this name has an effect to raise the rank of a place in the estimation of foreigners, and it will be better adapted than the name of town to express the real standing [72] compared with the other cities of the United States. The learning, intelligence, wealth, numbers, enterprise & public spirit of Boston entitle it in the opinion of your committee to the highest discriminating appelation universally given to their most distinguished places, by the practice of all European nations

The other alteration proposed by your committee relates chiefly to the powers exercised by the municipality.

By the fundamental laws of this commonwealth "The inhabitants of every town within the government are declared to be a body politic and corporate." Each town has powers of self government, to make bye laws, raise money, and execute any measures within the town, which the majority of the inhabitants shall consider for their benefit or advantage; conforming themselves always to the general laws and constitution of the commonwealth. This organization of towns is the most free that can be imagined; and while the inhabitants are not very numerous their affairs may be conducted with convenience and sufficient safety in this simple mode; but when the inhabitants become very numerous, especially in sea ports, the experience of our country as well as that of all the nations of Europe, has pointed out the necessity of a corresponding change.

In such large communities of people, it is impossible that all the individuals of which they [73] are composed, should be well acquainted with the principles on which depend the prosperous conduct of the monied concerns of a corporation, and with those other subjects of internal regulation, by which the prosperity of a city is increased, and by which it is best enabled to encourage & protect the industry of its own citizens. If all the inhabitants of such town assemble, it is obvious that business cannot be well transacted by so numerous a body, liable as it always must be, to be swayed by local views, party feelings, or the interests of designing men: If the meetings be, as it most frequently will be, but thinly attended, those present must act as the representatives of the whole; and it is very seldom, that men of the best intelligence and most capable of conducting publick business will leave their important private concerns to attend to affairs in which they have only a general interest; It therefore unavoidably happens that the affairs of a large town are conducted by a very small number of persons, who represent and act for the whole, but who are not chosen by them, who do not possess their confidence and act under no, or a very slight responsibility.

The necessity of a responsible representative system to the well management of the interests of all great bodies of men, is now so well understood and so universally acknowledged, that your committee forbear to dilate on them. Upon this principle depends the organization of the general and state governments, of all banking institutions, insurance and manufacturing companies and generally of [74] corporations of every kind; these are all conducted by representatives or directors who act for the joint interest under general laws. The town of Boston itself has recently experienced the most decided benefit resulting from the choice of Treasurer & Collector by a convention of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and board of health, constituting a new proof if any were wanting, of the advantage to be derived from confiding in large communities, the management of public business to responsible bodies.

The Committee also propose, that the superintendence of the concerns of the county should be transferred to the municipality — The town and county in such event being the same, such an arrangement seems naturally to result: The affairs of both may thus in the apprehension of your committee be conducted with more uniformity and economy by one body than at present. A greater control over the expences would result; and by a regular publication of the accounts they would be laid more open to the view of the citizens.

The committee do not find that any important revenue is derived from licenses or internal taxes of an indirect kind in the principal cities of the United States: The expences of these cities are paid, as with us, by direct taxes and from the income of public property: The chief advantages they possess arise from the adoption & steady pursuit of wise plans of Finance & the disposal and [75]

management of city property, by a responsible body, to whom these powers are delegated. To enable the town of Boston to realize similar advantages & thereby materially to improve the condition of its financial concerns, nothing more seems to be requisite than to adopt a similar system with that which prevails in those cities; and which in the opinion of your committee the alterations they have proposed are well calculated to attain.

The committee have also proposed that the municipality should have power to grant suitable privileges and immunities to associations of Mechanics, Artificers or Manufacturers within the town: This power however must necessarily be regulated by Constitution & Laws of the state, and can only effect those who voluntarily associate together.

Your committee conceive that under such provision as they propose, regulations may be adopted for the benefit of this class of citizens, which will materially promote industry & the public good.

The committee respectfully submit the result of their deliberations to the town and hope that it will be received with that candor, to which it is in some respect entitled, if from no other, at least from this consideration, that it is the work of men, called without any previous concert or knowledge of theirs, by the unsolicited voice of their fellow citizens to a task both delicate & difficult. Whatever decision the wisdom of the Inhabitants of the town shall finally make upon the report now offered for their consideration, your committee are clearly [**76**] of opinion, that it should not be made without deliberation and that every citizen should have an opportunity to examine the subject at his home and at his leisure, and shew his sentiments in a manner, which shall at once be the most satisfactory & the most likely to have weight with the Legislature to induce them to grant the prayer of the Town, in case the result should be in favour of the Report

For this purpose, your Committee after expressing their earnest wishes for the prosperity; increasing wealth and good order of the Metropolis and sincerely praying that their labours may eventuate, as it is their humble belief should the principles proposed be adopted, that they will, in advancing all those great interests: ask leave to report the following vote for the adoption of their fellow Citizens

Voted, that the Report & Bill this day presented to the town by the Committee appointed on the subject of taking into consideration the expediency of making an alteration in the Municipal Government of the town, be printed and distributed .to every house, and that this meeting be adjourned unto the thirteenth day of November next, then to meet at this place at ten o'Clock in the forenoon, and that the Selectmen be requested to issue notifications of such meeting in the usual form, notifying the inhabitants to come prepared to decide by ballot, by yea or nay in writing, on the acceptance of said Report.—

[77.]

A Bill
For the Government of the Town
and City of
Boston.

Section 1st. Be it enacted, by the Senate and house of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same. That the Selectmen of the Town annually chosen according to law, together with twenty four delegates & one Intendant to be chosen as hereafter directed, shall be a body corporate & Politic with power in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, to make use [of] a common seal, & the same to alter or change at pleasure; and shall be known by the title and stile of the *Intendant & Municipality of the Town and City of Boston.*

Sec: 2d. Be it further enacted, That the Inhabitants of the said Town & City qualified to vote for town officers, shall on the first Wednesday in April annually, meet in their respective Wards, and choose by Ballot, two persons freeholders in said Town & resident in the Ward for which they shall be chosen, who shall be denominated *Delegates.* The mode of proceeding in the choice and in case of a refusal to serve, shall be the same as is provided by law respecting the choice of members of the Board of Health: and the election of said Delegates shall have priority of any other business which may be before the respective Wards on the assigned day of Meeting.

[78.] Sec: 3d. Be it further enacted, That the Selectmen and Delegates together with the Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health shall annually assemble within ten days after the Delegates shall have been chosen, and shall elect by joint Ballot, one suitable person who shall be called "Intendant" *of the Town & City of Boston*, and in case of Death or resignation of said *Intendant* the Boards above named shall proceed forthwith to fill the vacancy. Provided, that no person shall hold more than one of the offices of Delegate, member of the Board of Health or Overseer of the Poor, at the same time.

Sec: 4th. Be it further enacted, That the Intendant so chosen, shall be ex officio, Chairman of the Selectmen, he shall preside at the meetings of the Selectmen of the municipality, and of the School Committee; all communications to those Boards, shall be made through him; he shall attend daily in some central & public office, to receive the report of the Police officers, and the complaints and representations of Individuals and to direct prosecutions for the breaches of the laws. He shall have the general superintendence with the concurrence of the Selectmen, of the Police of the Town and City, and take care that the laws enacted

for the general [good], are faithfully executed. He shall receive such salary as shall be judged adequate to his services by the municipality.

Sec 5th: Be it further enacted, That the Intendant and Municipality shall settle the rules & orders of proceedings of their meetings. They shall have power to make all such bye-laws & ordinances for the government of the Town & City & for the government of the Town & City & for the management of its [79] concerns as they shall judge necessary; & to establish reasonable penalties for the breach thereof: Provided, that such bye laws & ordinances are not repugnant to the Constitution & laws of the Commonwealth, and that they shall not be in force untill they have been published one week in two of the papers printed in Boston.

Sec: 6th. Be it further enacted, That the Intendant and municipality shall have the care & management of all property, real or personal, belonging to the Town & City, with power to lease or sell any real estate of the Town & City, the Common excepted, and to give deeds thereof and to make purchases of real estate for the erection of public buildings, and for other purposes, beneficial to the Town & City. Provided, that no sale of real estate shall be made, unless specially inserted in a notification for a meeting for that purpose, and unless the measure shall have been discussed at two several meetings of the municipality and determined by yeas & nays of two thirds of the members composing the whole body

Sec: 7th. Be it futher enacted, That the expenditure of monies shall be made under the direction of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health, in their several departments, conformably to appropriations to be from time to time made by the municipality. Regular accounts of expenditure shall be kept by the three Boards and exhibited annually at a meeting of the municipality and twenty days at least before the annual meeting in March, a full abstract of the same, and of all the accounts of the Treasurer and an estimate of the sums necessary to be raised for the ensuing year, shall be published in hand bills and circulated among the Inhabitants.

[80.] Sec: 8th. Be it further enacted, That the municipality shall annually elect a Treasurer and Collector or Collectors in the same manner and under the same regulations as is now done by the convention of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health. They shall determine the sum necessary to be raised for the expences of the year, and issue their warrant to the assessors to levy and assess the same.

Sec: 9th. Be it further enacted, That the municipality shall annually [choose] all officers now chosen by the Town, the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, School Committee, Town Clerk, Firewards, Board of Health, Assessors & assistant assessors, who shall continue to be chosen as heretofore. They shall also choose Constables and such police officers or deputies to the Intendant, as experience may prove necessary, and shall have power to remove the same upon misconduct or disobedience of orders. They shall also supply any vacancy occasioned by the death, resignation or removal of any officer appointed by them.

Sec: 10th. Be it further enacted, That the Selectmen shall be ex officio Surveyors of Highways: that all the powers which are now vested in the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, and all the duties enjoined on them by law, shall continue to be vested in and executed by them respectively, excepting all such powers & duties as are by this act, tranferred to the municipality as aforesaid.

Sec: 11th. Be it further enacted, that the municipality shall have power to grant to any association [81] of artists, artificers, or mechanics such power of regulating themselves in their several occupations and of possessing such immunities, and imposing such restrictions as the said municipality shall consider for the benefit of the community and for the encouragement of Industry — Provided such powers & regulations be not repugnant to the Constitution & laws of the Commonwealth. —

Sec: 12th. Be it further enacted, That the Town & City of Boston shall hereafter be a County by the name of the County of Suffolk & the Intendant & Municipality shall hold and exercise all the powers & authorities now exercised by the courts of Sessions of the present County of Suffolk: They shall annually elect a County Treasurer, and have the direction and control of his proceedings, and establish the Salary which he shall receive. They shall publish a statement of the income & expenditures of the County, at the same time and in the same manner as is required in relation to the other Town and City expences.

Sec: 13 Be it further enacted, That the Intendant and Municipality, shall once in every quarter of the year, nominate and select from the Justices of the Peace of the County, three persons, to be Justices of a Police Court, for the quarter of the year ensuing, which shall be holden daily in some convenient & central place by one or more of said Justices; at which court a record shall be kept of the whole business of criminal police within the County, so far as the same is recognizable by a justice of the peace. The Constable shall be directed [82] to return all warrants to this Court, and any person carried before any other magistrate may claim examination and trial before said

Court. In selecting Justices of the Police Court care shall be taken, that all the Justices of the County shall be taken in succession quarterly, if they shall express their consent to act as Justices of said Court.

Sec: 14th Be it further enacted, That the municipality shall annually appoint a Clerk of the Police Court, who shall attend the Court daily: He shall keep a record of all the proceedings of this Court. And all the Justices of the county shall make return to him weekly Copies of their records of all criminal business transacted by them. He shall reduce to writing all examinations, make out warrants, receive recognizances and transmit them to the proper Courts & perform such other duties as the nature of his office may require. The Justices and Clerk to receive in addition to the fees established by law such further compensation as the Municipality shall direct

All which is submitted

John Phillips	John Cotton
John T. Apthorp	Rcdfd. Webster
Ebenezer T. Andrews	A. Crocker
Francis Welsh	Wm. Mackay
John Mackay	John Wood
Lynde Walter	Joseph Howe
Jona. Whitney	Jas. Robinson
William Homes	B. Smith
Jacob Rhoades	Josiah Quincy
Thomas Badger	George Blake
J. C. Ransford	Benjn. West

Sepr. 25th. 1815. The foregoing Report was ordered to be printed for general information.

Adjourned to Monday the 13th. November Next 10 O'Clock A. M.

[**83.**] The Town met at 10 o'Clock A. M. according to adjournment.

The Moderator informed the Inhabitants that the Report of the Committee chosen in the wards had been printed agreeably to their vote of the 16th ultimo, and that the Selectmen were ready to receive the ballots on the acceptance of the Report.

After some debate it was Voted, That the Selectmen receive the yeas & Nays untill one o'Clock, and that the Poll should be closed at that time

At the close of the Poll it appeared that there were 920 yeas & 951 nays — The question on the acceptance of the Report passed in the negative.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

1816.

[84.] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 11th. day of March A. D. 1816 — 10 o'Clock A. M.

Prayer by Revd. Mr. Frothingham.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Laws respecting the Election of Town Officers — read.

John Phillips, Esquire, chosen Moderator.

Thomas Clark, was chosen Town Clerk, for the year ensuing, and the Oath of Office was administered to him by the Moderator.

Charles Bulfinch	Robert Williams
Ebenezer Oliver	George G. Lee
Jonathan Hunnewell	John Bray and
Joseph Lovering	Turner Phillips Esquires—
Joseph Austin	

were chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing.

The oath required by Law was administered to the six first named Gentlemen by the Moderator.

William Smith	William Mackay
William Phillips	Joseph Coolidge Junr.
Redford Webster	Joseph Richards
Thomas Perkins	Jonathan Phillips
Samuel Snelling	Samuel May and
[85.] Ozias Goodwin	Jacob Hall Esquires

were chosen Overseers of the Poor and of the Workhouse for the year ensuing.

Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a School Committee; and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen. viz:—

Revd. Charles Lowell	Charles Davis
Revd. Horace Holley	John Heard Junr.
Revd. Saml. C. Thacher	Peter O. Thacher
Docr. Aaron Dexter	Francis J. Oliver
Docr. Thomas Welsh	William Smith and
Docr. John C. Warren	William Wells Esqrs.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the system of education adopted by the Town into operation: and that the said Committee be also

authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools & Schoolmasters [**86**] which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth or by votes of the Town to exercise.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Foster, Benjamin Weld and Edmund Hart Esquires for their faithful services as Selectmen.

Voted, that 4 o'Clock this afternoon be assigned for receiving the votes for a Register of Deeds for the County of Suffolk.

Adjourned to 4 O'Clock, P. M.

Town met according to adjournment.—

John Bray and
Turner Phillips Esquires,

chosen Selectmen, appeared & being qualified by the Moderator, took their seats at the Board.

Thomas Melvill	Samuel M. Thayer
Andrew Cunningham	Joseph Tilden
John Winslow	Joseph Austin
Jon[a]. Hunewell	Benjamin Rich
Daniel Messenger	Joseph Lovering
Benjamin Smith	Gedney King
Nath[l]. Curtiss	Francis J. Oliver
Edward Cruft	John D. Williams
James Phillips	William Harris
Nathan Webb	Stephen Codman

[**87.**] John Winslow Jun[r].
Jonathan Loring.
John Mackay and
Bryant P. Tilden Esq[rs].

were chosen Firewards for the year ensuing.

Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to receive the votes for a Register of Deeds for the County of Suffolk.

The Chairman reported that the whole number of votes was 479 and that William Alline Esquire had 440 and John J. Loring 39.

Votes were received for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk by Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 238 — and that they were all for John Winslow Esq[r].

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to William Sullivan Esq[r]. for his faithful services as a Fireward for many years past.

Mess[rs]. Benjamin White
John Cogswell
William Clouston
W[m]. Ellison
Nath[l]. Bradlee
Noah Dogget
Bradock Loring
Thomas Christie

Mess[rs]. William Green
Eleazer Homer
Joseph Stodder
Allen Bowker
William Allison Jun[r].
Nath[l]. Glover
John Howe Jun[r].
Richard Thayer

[88.] Edward J. Robbins
Henry Blake
Joseph Tucker and
Moses Eayres Jun[r].
were chosen Surveyors of Boards and other Lumber for the year ensuing.

Mess[rs]. Henry Purkitt
John Smith
Nath[l]. Howe and
Benjamin Clark
were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves.

Mess[rs]. Thomas Barbour
Nath[l]. Howe
Benj[a]. Clark
Charles Pook
John Bannister
John Smith

Mess[rs]. Benj[a]. Owen
James Brown
William J. Hammatt
Thomas Lambord, and
Walter Jackson

were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

Mess[rs]. Benjamin White
Nathaniel Bradlee and
William Ellison Jun[r].
were chosen Fence viewers.

Mess[rs]. Barney Sloan
Joseph Champney
Joseph Selaway and
Neddy Curtis,
were chosen Hogreeves and Haywards.

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esquires,
were chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

[89.] Mess[rs]. Edward Tuckerman and
Josiah Snelling Esq[rs].
were chosen Surveyors of Wheat

Messrs. John Wells and
Richard Austin
were chosen Assay Masters.

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of Highways.

Messrs. Michael Homer
Francis James and
Samuel Sprague
were chosen Inspectors of Lime.

Upon the petition of a number of the Inhabitants "That the sense of the Town be taken, whether the business and duties of the Board of Health cannot be as fully and more economically carried into effect, by three or more suitable men, to be appointed by the Selectmen and amenable to them."

Voted, That,—Col Thomas Badger for Ward N°. 1
Redford Webster Esqr. - - 2
Benja. Smith Esqr. - - - 3
Josiah Marshall Esqr. - - 4
Benjamin Weld Esqr. - - 5
Andrew Sigourney Esqr. - - 6
William H. Sumner Esqr. - 7
Francis Welsh Esqr. - - - 8
Honl. Thomas H. Perkins - 9
Honl. Daniel Sargent - - - 10
Capt. John Wood - - - - 11
Barzillia Homes - - - - 12

Be a Committee to take the subject of the said [**90**] Petition into consideration, to confer with the Committee of the General Court, who have a Bill respecting the Board of Health under consideration, and to report at the adjournment.

Messrs. Thomas Badger - Ward N°. 1
Samuel Hichborn - - " - - 2
Turrell Tuttle - - - " - - 3
Enoch Patterson - - " - - 4
William Tileston - - " - - 5
Geo. W. Otis - - - " - - 6
John P. Thorndike - " - - 7
Caleb Hayward - - " - - 8
Isaac P. Stimpson - " - - 9
Joseph Allen - - - " - - 10
John Roulston - - " - - 11
Samuel Sprague - - " - - 12

Were chosen Inspectors of the Markets for the year ensuing.

Voted, That the Inspectors of the Markets be directed to pay attention to the weight of bread sold by the different bakers in

this Town, and take measures to carry the law regulating that article into effect.

Voted — That Stephen Codman, Francis T. Oliver & John Osborn Esquires, be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor & Workhouse, & the Board of Health. And said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

[**91.**] Voted, That the consideration of all money matters be referred to the May Meeting.—

Adjourned to Monday the 25th day of March instant — 10 o'clock A. M.

Monday March 25th. 1816. 10 o'Clock A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee of the Town of Boston, appointed at a Town meeting on the eleventh day of March current to whom was committed the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants, "That the sense of the Town may be taken, whether the business and duties of the Board of Health cannot be as fully, and more economically, carried into effect by three or more suitable men, to be appointed by the Selectmen and amenable to them."— have at several meetings, taken the said Petition and the subject committed to them into consideration. Your Committee (as they were directed by the Town conferred with the Committee of the General Court; they also requested the Board of Health, or such a Committee as they should appoint, to meet and confer with *your* Committee, which request was complied with; and your Committee, having thereby become possessed of the views, and wishes of the Board of Health, are happy to inform the Town that it is not the desire of any of the members of that Board, that their services should be paid for by the Town, either by the establishment of Salaries [**92**] or by the receipt of fees. Your Committee entertain the belief, that the extensive powers which it is necessary that a Board of Health should possess, may, with the greatest safety, be vested in such of our patriotic fellow Citizens, as shall annually be selected, for their known humanity, and public spirit; and such as would expect no other reward for their services, than the approbation of their Townsmen; and are, therefore unanimously of opinion, that it would be inexpedient to transfer these extensive powers from men, residing in the several parts of the Town & annually chosen by the Citizens in their respective wards; to such Superintendents as the Selectmen should appoint,

as such would serve the Town for hire only, and would expect to be rewarded only by the pecuniary advantages resulting from their official situations.

Your Committee have examined the Health Laws, and find that the powers of the Board of Health are given by *eight different Statutes*. From the number of acts, and a want of suitable precision of expression in some of them, doubts have arisen in the interpretation of the Laws: and the powers of the Board of Health have been found sometimes to interfere with those of the Selectmen, & vice versa. Some of the doubts and inconveniences, which have arisen, under existing laws, will be enumerated.

There are *various modes* pointed out for the recovery of fines and penalties, which have unnecessarily increased the cost of prosecution; which might easily be simplified.

In consequence of the number of Laws which [**93**] have been made, since the establishment of the Board of Health, regarding and altering the Jurisdiction of the various Courts in this County, there is a doubt whether any Court in the County has an appellate Jurisdiction, in any case which has been decided by a Justice of the Peace: and since a decision of the Boston Court of Common Pleas, and an opinion given by one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, it is uncertain whether, as the laws now stand, there is any mode of enforcing a compliance with them by any legal process whatever.

It is doubtful whether the Board have the right to oblige a family in which a person shall be found infected with any contagious disease, to retain such person in the house until he or she can, with safety, be removed to the Hospital. — It is doubtful whether the powers of the Board extend to the removal of any nuisances other than those particularly enumerated in the Statutes.—

And as the Board of Health have doubts whether, under the existing Laws, they have power from *time to time* to alter their *Quarantine Regulations*, your Committee are of opinion that all doubts on that subject should be removed, and that the Board of Health should have the power, and should take the responsibility, of regulating the Quarantine of vessells from time to time, according to existing circumstances.

Your Committee are of opinion, that by combining all the various existing powers into one Statute, the difficulties aforesaid and others, which it is unnecessary particularly to enumerate, might be removed; the law would be rendered more intelligible and less [**94**] expensive in its execution; but they cannot at present discern a necessity for the appointment of *any new officers*, or for conferring (except as before alluded to) *any new powers on* the Board of Health — And as the subject has already been taken up in the Legislature, and a Committee, consisting of three of our most respectable Townsmen, have now the subject under consideration; and as that Committee are not disposed to report

to the Legislature any law, which will not be agreeable to the Town; but will with pleasure, advise and consult with such a Committee as the Town shall appoint for the purpose of guarding the Towns interests; Your Committee beg leave respectfully to recommend to the Town the adoption of [the] following vote.—

Voted, that
be a Committee, to take the subject of the Laws regarding the Health of the Town of Boston into consideration; and to confer with any Committee appointed by either branch of the Legislature; with power to consent to such a modification of the existing Laws as shall, in their opinion best comport with the rights and interests of the Town.

Thos. H. Perkins, Chairman per order.

Boston March 21st. 1816.

The foregoing report was read & accepted by the Town; and the blank was filled with the names of the following Gentlemen as the Committee — viz.

Hon. Thos. H. Perkins
Hon. Daniel Sargent

[95.] Benjamin Weld Esq. — Josiah Marshall Esq.
Redford Webster Esq. — Andrew Sigourney Esq.
Thomas Badger Esq. — Francis Welsh Esq.
William H. Sumner Esq. — John Wood Esq. and
Benja. Smith Esq. — Barzillai Homes Esq.

Revd. Joshua Huntington was chosen one of the School Committee in place of Revd. S. C. Thacher, who declined serving.

Voted, That Peter O. Thacher Esq., Benjamin Russell Esq. and Mr. Joseph Callender be a Committee to revise the bye laws relative to the Market, and upon conferring with the Inspectors of the Market, to consider what additional powers should be given to them, and what regulations can be adopted to enable them to execute the duties of their appointment and report.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Hon. John Phillips Esquire, for his services as Moderator of this meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[96.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned and assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the first day of April 1816 — 9 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Sharpe.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, relative to the choice of Governour, Lieutenant Governour and Senators, read.—

Law of the Commonwealth dividing the State into Districts for the choice of Counsellors and Senators, read.

It was afterwards determined that the Poll should be closed at 2 O'Clock, and that the bells begin tolling at half past one.—

Persons voted for as Governour, with the number of votes for each person, viz.

Hon^{l}. John Brooks - - - - - - -	3522
Hon^{l}. Samuel Dexter - - - - - -	2022
His Excellency Caleb Strong - - -	1
Hon^{l}. William Gray - - - - - -	3
Henry A. S. Dearborn - - - - -	2
	5550.

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governour, with the number of Votes for each person, viz.—

His Honour William Phillips - - - - -	3562
Hon^{l}. William King - - - - - -	1941
Hon^{l}. William Gray - - - - - -	7
Ch^{s}. Carter 1. John Holmes 1. Tho^{s}.Melville 1 - -	3
John Brooks 1. James Prince 1. H. Dearborn 1 -	3
	5516

[97.] Persons voted for as Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person, viz.

Hon^{l}. Harrison G. Otis - - - - -	3520
" John Phillips - - - - - -	3536
" Thomas H. Perkins - - - -	3523
" Josiah Quincy - - - - - -	3461
" Jonathan Hunnewell - - - -	3515
" Richard Sullivan - - - - -	3523
" Henry Dearborn - - - - -	1923
David Townsend Esq^{r}. - - -	1941
William Little Esq^{r}. - - - -	1933
Russell Sturgis Esq^{r}. - - - -	1919
Caleb Bingham Esq^{r}. - - - -	1941
William Ingalls Esq^{r}. - - - -	1939
James Lloyd - - - - - - - -	33

D. Sargent 1. C. Loring 2. Abraham Jones 1 - - 4
T. K. Jones 2. W^{m}. Tudor 2. Josiah Dow 4 - - 8
Arnold Welles 1. Frink Roberts 2 - - - - - - - 3
S. H. Walley 1. Ed Jones 1. Sam Brown 1. Enos Cobb 1. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 4
Ch^{s}. Bulfinch 1. Geo. Blake 1. Tris. Barnard 1. - 3
Ben. Smith 1. John Wells 1. A W Fuller 2 - - 4
W^{m}. Gray 1. Geo. Cabot 1. Benj. Austin 1 - - 3
Benjamin Russell 1. Geo. Darricot 1 - - - - - 2

Attested Copies or return of the persons voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour & Senators for the District of Suffolk sealed up in open Town Meeting, after the vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law, and directed as follows, viz.

To Alden Bradford Esq^{r}. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour & Lieutenant Governour sealed up in open Town Meeting.

Also for six Senators for the District of Suffolk, directed in the same manner.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**98.**] At a Meeting of the male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, held at Faneuil Hall on the 16th day of May A D 1816. 10 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Dean.

Warrant for calling the Meeting, read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution relating to the choice of Representatives, read

The return of the Assistant Assessors signifying that the major and minor polls were 9729 — being also read. The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for Representatives not exceeding Forty three.

Votes were received by the Selectmen untill half past one o'clock, when they declared the Poll to be closed.

The whole number of votes given in was 791, necessary to make a choice 396.

The following gentlemen were nearly unanimously elected, viz,

James Robinson	William H. Sumner
Josiah Bachelder	Ephraim Thayer
Stephen Codman	Nathaniel Curtis
Benjamin Russell	William Tudor jun^{r}.
Benjamin Whitman	Richard Faxon
Charles Davis	
[**99.**] John D. Howard	Benjamin Whitwell
Thacher Goddard	Thomas W. Sumner
Lynde Walter	Samuel Hubbard
Jonathan Loring	Benjamin Rand
Jonathan Whitney	John French
Joseph Pierce	Gedney King
Andrew Sigourney	Charles W. Greene
Thomas Barry	Joseph W. Revere
Henry Sargent	John Cotton
William Harris	John Mackay
Benjamin Gorham	Edward T. Channing
William Sturgis	Peter O. Thacher
John Howe of Ward N°. 12	David Sears Jun^{r}.
Nathan Appleton	Josiah Bradlee
George Sullivan	Josiah Marshall and
Israel Thorndike Jun^{r}.	Benjamin Smith

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**100.**] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 27th day of May A. D. 1816. 10 o'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting, read.

Hon^{l}. John Phillips Esq^{r}. chosen Moderator.

John Howe of Ward N°. 12 was chosen a Selectman, in the place of George G. Lee, Esquire, deceased.

Thomas Wigglesworth Esq^{r}. was chosen on the School Committee in place of William Smith, Esq^{r}. deceased.

Edward Tuckerman Jun^{r}. Esq^{r}. was chosen an Overseer of the Poor & of the Work house in place of William Smith Esq^{r}. deceased.

Turner Phillips Esq^{r}. was chosen a Fire Ward, in place of Bryant P. Tilden Esq^{r}. resigned.

Edward Tuckerman	William Hammatt
William Dall	Peter O. Thacher and
Joshua Davis	Thomas Dawes Esquires,

were chosen Trustees of Neck Land.

William Trefrey, was chosen a Culler of Dry Fish.

A Petition from the Assessors, that the Town would grant them a further compensation for their services, was read.—

A motion was made and seconded, that the [**101**] petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition. which being put, passed in the affirmative.

The Committee appointed on the 11th day of March last "to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer, and to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year" have attended that service & ask leave to report, that they have examined the Accounts of Andrew Sigourney Esqr. the Town Treasurer & Collector herewith — that they find the same correctly stated, right cast, and well vouched, and that there remains [as] a balance in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of $19,224.4 cents belonging to the Town.

Your Committee further report that the Standing Committee of finance having informed them that in their annual report to the Town, on the subject of their monied concerns they have stated the sum which in their opinion would be necessary to be raised by the Town for the services of the present year; your Committee therefore beg leave to refer the Town to that report for such further information on that subject as may be necessary. all which is respectfully submitted.

Stephen Codman per Order.–

The above Report read & accepted by the Town.

Upon the representation & exhibition of the doings & proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esquire, Treasurer & Collector of taxes of the Town of Boston this last year.

Voted, that the Town of Boston highly approve of the conduct of said Andrew Sigourney Esquire in the said offices of Treasurer & Collector, and that [**102**] he has faithfully & fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said offices to which he has been appointed as aforesaid, and that he be excused from all delinquency or default in not having effected the full and complete settlement of the taxes by him to have been received or collected according to law.

Fourth annnal report
of the
Committee of Finance of the Town of Boston.

In the year 1812 The Town voted, that the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of health should be constituted &

appointed a Committee of finance, to superintend the administration of the monied concerns of the Town: Among other duties they were directed to prepare a clear and well defined statement of the Treasury, and of the monied concerns of the town, to be presented at the annual Meeting in May.

In conformity to these directions, the Committee have attended to the duty assigned them, and present the following, as the fourth annual report.

The amount of the warrants for taxes in 1815, were

For State Tax - - - - - - - - - - - -	24,709.33
County Tax - - - - - - - - - - - -	21,828.
Town Tax - - - - - - - - - - - -	109,000.
	$155,537.33

The amount assessed with the addition allowed to anticipate probable abatements - - - - $158,402.80

[**103.**] Amount received by the Treasurer from Oct^{r}. 1st. 1815 to 20th. May 1816 - - - - $146,801.44

Amount of Abatements - - - - - - - -	6,575.10
Balance remaining uncollected - - - - - -	5,026.26
	$158,402.80

He has received on back taxes from 1804 to 1814 inclusive - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4547.19
On last years tax as above - - - - - - - -	146801.44
	151348.63

The following is a statement of the Towns Debts and Credits.

D^{r}. Town of Boston.—

On State tax - - - - - - - - - - - - -	14709.33
County of Suffolk - - - - - - - - - - - -	17789.5
Notes due to several individuals - - - - - -	36100.—
M^{rs}. Brookers donation — the interest of which is paid annually to Widows and sick persons	1230.
Selectmen & Overseers drafts unpaid - - - -	109.12
	69937.50
Unliquidated accounts - - - - - - - - -	6062.50
	$76,000.

Cr. By several notes for land sold - - - - - -	$6779.63
due for State Poor - - - - - - - - -	7002.
Taxes receivable estimated at - - - - -	3000.
	$16781.63
Cash in the Treasury - - - - - - - - -	19249.4
	$36030.67
Balance - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	39969.33
	$76000.—

The balance of the Account current of the Town last year, was - - - - - - - - -	$63886.84
the above statement shows it to be at present	$39969.33
And exhibits the amount of Debt which has been paid - - - - -	$23917.51

[**104.**] The Committee are gratified in being able to state, that the system recommended by them in 1814 has, in its effects exceeded their most sanguine expectations. Having been ably and steadily pursued by the Treasurer & Collector, order & perspicuous arrangement have been introduced into the Treasury department; the collections have become prompt and regular without harassing or oppressing the citizens; such punctuality is observed in payments that only 109 dollars are now unpaid, on the drafts of the Selectmen, Overseers and Board of Health, and the outstanding debt is reduced to 39969 dollars.—

They recommend the pursuance of the same system, and offer the following estimates and statements for the present year.

The demands on the Town being as above stated - - - - - - - - - - - -		76000.
add thereto for current expences of the year		
For Selectmen - - - - - - - - - -	63000	
Overseers of the poor - - - - -	25000	
Board of Health . - - - - - - -	8000	
		96000.
Amount of State Tax - - - - - - - - -		22141.33
County Tax - - - - - - - - - - - -		21000.
Interest on Outstanding debt referred - - -		2400.
		$217541.33
From which deduct two installments of old debt each of 14000 dollars, to be paid in two succeeding years - - - - - - - - - - - -		28000.
Amount to be paid this year - - - - - - -		$189,541.33

[**105.**] To be provided for as follows.

From money in the Treasury - -		19249.4
Notes for land falling due - - -		6779.63
From Commonwealth for Poor - -		7002.
Rents of Market, Town house &c. -		12000.
Taxes receivable outstanding - -		3000.
Amount assessed for		
State tax - - - - -	22141.33	
D°. County Tax -	21000.	
D°. Town Tax -	96000.	
addition for probable abatements - - - -	10000.	
		$149141.33
		$197172.—

The Committee recommend that the Town should vote a tax of 96,000 dollars and ten thousand dollars to meet the abatements. The amount will defray the current expences of the year, and one installment of the deferred debt and interest: they are gratified in finding, that these objects may be effected, & that the amount of taxes laid be about 9000 dollars less than in the past year.—

Respectfully submitted
By order of the Committee of Finance
Charles Bulfinch
Chairman.—

The foregoing report was read, and accepted by the Town. and,—
Voted, That the sum of ninety six thousand dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed upon the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town, to defray the expences of the Town the present year; and the further sum of Ten Thousand dollars to meet abatements of Taxes.

[**106.**] Voted, That the Treasurer be authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding Seventy six thousand dollars, if the same should be found necessary, in his opinion for the use of the Town.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid to the Hon[l]. Thomas Dawes the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars as his salary as Judge of the Municipal Court for the present year.—

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk, the sum of One Thousand Dollars as his Salary for the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto each of the three permanent Assessors the sum of Eight hundred & sixteen dollars each as their salary for the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed & paid unto Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}., the sum of Three Thousand dollars, in full for his services as Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes, for Clerk hire and all other expences in the delivery of tax bills & collection of Taxes.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.—

[**107.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 4th. day of July A.D. 1816 — 10 O'Clock A. M. —

Warrant for calling the meeting — read

Thomas Clark was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported — That they have chosen George Sullivan Esquire who had accepted the appointment.

Adjourned to meet at the Old South Church at 12 O'Clock M.

Met at the Old South Church where an Oration was delivered by George Sullivan Esq^{r}. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on George Sullivan Esq^{r}. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town upon the Anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners & principles which produced the great event and the important and happy effects, general and domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch; and to request of him a copy for the press.

Voted, That the Gentlemen Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some [**108**] able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th. day of July 1817. That day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners & principles, which led to this great national event; as well as the important and happy effects which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved. —

At a Convention of the Board of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health, of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 8th. day of July A.D. 1816 — 4 O'Clock P.M.

Present a Majority of each Board.

Voted, to proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Ebenezer Oliver & Joseph Coolidge jr. Esquires were appointed a Committee to receive sort and count the votes.

The Committee reported that the whole number of Votes were 24 and that Andrew Sigourney Esqr. was unanimously chosen Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Voted, to proceed to the choice of one Collector of Taxes.

The Committee having collected the votes. Reported that Andrew Sigourney Esqr. was unanimously elected Collector of Taxes for the year ensuing.

Mr. Sigourney having been notified of his appointment to the above offices, declared his acceptance, and proposed the Honble. Jonathan Hunnewell & Benjamin Weld Esqr. as his Bondsmen.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen be accepted as Mr. Sigourneys Bondsmen, & that they execute a Bond of Twenty thousand dollars as Treasurer, and another Bond for the same sum as Collector of Taxes.

Voted, That Mr. Oliver, of the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Snelling, of the Overseers & Mr. Jackson of the Board of Health, be a Committee to see that the Bonds are given by the Treasurer & that he is qualified according to law.

Then the Convention was Dissolved.

[**109.**] At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified to vote for Representatives in the General Court of this Commonwealth, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4th. day of November A.D. 1816 — 10 o'Clock A.M. —

Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Winchell.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read. —

Paragraphs of the Constitution of the United States, and of a Resolve of the General Court for choosing one Representative in the Congress of the United States for the District of Suffolk being read — The Inhabitants were informed that the Poll would be closed at half past one o'Clock. —

Persons voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States, viz. —

Hon°. James Lloyd Esq^r. — 828
Will^m. Sullivan Esq^r. 1

And declaration thereof made by the Selectmen in Public Town Meeting. —

A return of the doings of this Meeting was made out conformable to the printed direction of the General Court & forwarded to the Secretary's office by the Town Clerk. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[110.] At a Meeting of the male Citizens of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 10^th^. day of March A.D. 1817 — 10 oClock A.M.

Prayer by the Rev^d^. M^r^. Ware

Warrant for calling the Meeting read. —

Law respecting the Election of Town Officers — read.

Hon^ble^. John Phillips Esq^r^. was chosen Moderator. —

Thomas Clark was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and the oath of office was administered to him by the Moderator.

Charles Bulfinch	Ebenezer Oliver
Jonathan Hunnewell	Joseph Lovering
Joseph Austin	Turner Phillips
Henry Bass	Samuel Dorr and
	Enoch Silsby Esquires were chosen

Selectmen for the year ensuing.

The Oath of office was administered to the six first named Gentlemen by the Moderator.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Robert Williams Esq^r^. for his faithful services as one of the Selectmen for several years past. —

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to John Bray Esq^r^. for his faithful services as one of the Selectmen the past year.

Hon^l^. William Phillips Esq^r^.	Redford Webster
Thomas Perkins	Samuel Snelling
Ozias Goodwin	William Mackay
Joseph Coolidge jun^r^.	Joseph Richards
Jonathan Phillips	Samuel May
Jacob Hall and	Edw^d^. Tuckerman Jun^r^. Esq^rs^.

were chosen Overseers of the Poor and of the Work House the year ensuing.

[111.] Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a School Committee; and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, viz

Rev^{d}. Charles Lowell	Charles Davis
Rev^{d}. Horace Holley	Peter O. Thacher
Rev^{d}. Joshua Huntington	Francis J Oliver
Doct^{r}. Aaron Dexter	William Wells
Doct^{r}. Thomas Welsh	Thomas Wigglesworth &
Doct^{r}. John C. Warren	Benjamin Russell Esq^{rs}.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be, and hereby are directed to carry the System of Education adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools and School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth or by votes of the Town to exercise.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to John Heard Esq^{r}. for his faithful services as one of the School Committee for many years past

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to Edward Cruft and John Winslow jun^{r}. Esq^{rs}. for their faithful services as Firewards for several years past.

Thomas Melvill	Andrew Cunningham
John Winslow	Stephen Codman
Jonathan Hunewell	Daniel Messenger
Joshua Davis	Benj^{a}. Smith
Nath^{l}. Curtis	James Phillips
Bryant P. Tilden	Nathan Webb
Sam^{l}. M. Thayer	Joseph Tilden
Joseph Austin	Benj^{a}. Rich
Joseph Lovering [112.]	Gedney King
Francis J. Oliver	John D. Williams
William Harris	Jonathan Loring
John Mackay and	Turner Phillips Esq^{rs}. were chosen

Firewards for the year ensuing.

Votes were received for a Treasurer for the county of Suffolk by the Moderator and Town Clerk — when it appeared that John Winslow Esq^{r}. had one hundred & forty seven votes, & A Young one vote

Messrs. Benja. White — John Cogswell
William Clouston — Nathl. Bradlee
Noah Doggett — Bradock Loring
Allen Bowker — Thomas Christie
Wm. Green — Eleazer Homer
Joseph Stodder — Willm. Ellison
Nathl. Glover — John Howe Junr.
Richard Thayer — Edwd. J. Robbins
Henry Blake — Josh. Tucker
Moses Eayres and — Benja. Harris were chosen Surveyors of Boards and other Lumber.

Messrs. Henry Purkett — Benja. Clark
Nathl. Howe & — Benjamin Owen were chosen cullers of Hoops & Staves.

Messrs. Thomas Barbour — Nathl. Howe
Benj. Clark — Charles Pook
John Bannister — Benja. Owen
James Brown — Wm. J. Hammatt
Thomas Lombard and — Walter Jackson were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

[**113.**] Messrs. Benjamin White — Nathl. Bradlee
William Ellison and — John Howe junr. were chosen Fence viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Sloan — Joseph Champney
Joseph Selaway and — Neddy Curtis were chosen Hogreeves and Haywards for the ensuing year.

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esquires, were chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

Edward Tuckerman and
Josiah Snelling Esquires, were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

Messrs. John Wells and
Richard Austin — were chosen Assay Masters.

Messrs. Michael Homer
Francis James and
Samuel Sprague were chosen Inspectors of Lime for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of High Way.

Voted, That Stephen Codman, Francis J. Oliver and Robert G. Shaw Esquires, be and hereby are appointed a Committee to

Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor & Work House and the Board of Health — and said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year. —

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to John Osborn Esq^r. for his faithful services as one of the Auditors of Accounts for several years past.

Voted, That the consideration of all money matters be referred to May Meeting.

The Committee who were appointed to revise the Bye laws of the Town of Boston relative to the Market, and to confer with the Inspectors of the Market upon the expediency of adopting any [114] further regulations for the good order of the same "report that pursuant to their appointment they have had a Conference with the Inspectors of the Market, and have received from that body the following communication.

The Inspectors of the Market within the town of Boston are by their office expected to enquire after and to cause to be prosecuted offences committed in or against the Market. But as they derive no authority from the laws of the Commonwealth, and are elected by the voluntary act of their fellow citizens, they possess no real powers; and they are apprehensive, that the public can derive no essential advantage from their appointment. By recurring to a report made to the Town at a Meeting of the Inhabitants on the 24 — May 1813 — It appears, that for the many offences which may be committed against the community in the Market; the law contemplates adequate remedies; but from experience it is found that, such is the negligence of the citizens, prosecutions are very rare and seldom result in the conviction of offenders.

The object of all regulations on the subject of the Market should be, to facilitate the bringing of produce to the Market by the growers of the same, and to encourage the sale of it there, by them to the consumers, so as to avoid the increase of price, which must be paid to venders on commission; but the Inspectors are sensible that in multiplying regulations there is danger of shackling the freedom of trade, and causing at times a deficiency in the regular supply of the Market on which much of its utility depends. Evils arise in this town from the contracted limits of the Market, which are found not sufficient for the accommodation of those who come to sell, and of those who come to buy, while the market continues in its present local situation, partial remedies only can be applied to existing evils.

The Inspectors are aware that very much depends on the vigilance of the citizens, and in the hope that some benefit will be derived to them, and perhaps some revenue to the Town, they recommend the following additional regulations, to be adopted and enforced by proper legal authority — viz —

First — That no inhabitant of the Town of Boston, or any neighbouring town, not offering for sale the produce of his own farm shall at any season of the year, be permitted to occupy any stand with Cart or otherwise for the purpose of vending commodities in Dock Square. —

Second — That all the Stalls in the Market be offered to be leased by the Selectmen once a year at public auction, and that among other [**115**] conditions of the lease it should be inserted, that the Lessee shall forfeit his lease and all monies paid for the same, if he, or any person under him, or with his connivance, or permission should commit any offence against the laws or regulations of the Market; and that the Selectmen shall have authority to hear and finally determine all complaints respecting the breach of this condition, and to deprive offenders of their Stalls. This regulation to be in addition to the penalties, which are provided for offences by existing laws.

Third, That the office of Inspectors of the Market be discontinued, and the Selectmen of the Town be authorized to appoint annually two or more Clerks of the Market, to be under oath for the faithful performance of the duties of their office, and to be allowed a suitable compensation for their services. The said Clerks, in addition to collecting the rents of the Stalls and inspecting the conduct of the occupants of the same, shall regulate the standing of horses, carts & other incumbrances in and about the Market and in the Streets leading to the same: Shall see that all orders and regulations on these subjects be observed; and shall inform of and duly prosecute all offences which may in any way come to their knowledge, and which shall be committed in the Market or elsewhere against the laws, regulations and freedom of the same.

Thomas Badger, Chairman.
Wm. Tileston, Secretary.

Conceiving that the communication from the Inspectors of the Market results from much experience and attentive observation, and fully approving of its principles, your Committee ask leave to propose to their fellow citizens to adopt the following votes and Bye law, viz,

Voted, That all the Stalls in the Market be offered to be leased by the Selectmen once a year, at public Auction, and upon such terms and conditions as they may deem proper: but that among the terms and conditions of the lease, it shall be inserted, "That the Lessee shall forfeit his lease and all monies paid for the same, if he, or any person under him, or with his connivance, or permission shall commit any offence against the laws or regulations of the Market, or against the general or special laws regulating the same. — and that the Selectmen shall have authority to hear, and finally to determine all complaints respecting the breach of this condition, and thereupon to take from said Lessee, or any person under him the said Stall."

Voted, That the office of Inspectors of the Market be discontinued, [**116**] and the Selectmen of the town shall annually, and oftener, if need be, appoint one or more substantial citizens to be Clerks of the Market, and to allow to him or them a suitable compensation for his or their services. And it shall be the duty of every such Clerk, in addition to collecting the rents of the Stalls and inspecting the conduct of occupants of the same, to regulate the standing of Carts, Horses, and other incumbrances in & about the Market, and in the Streets leading thereto, so that there may always be a free and convenient passage in & through the same: and it shall further be the duty of every such Clerk, to see that all orders and regulations of the Selectmen on these subjects be observed, and to inform of, & duly to prosecute all offences, which may in any way come to their knowledge, & which shall be committed in the Market, or elsewhere, against the laws, regulations & freedom of the same: and lastly, every such Clerk shall be under Oath faithfully to perform the duties of his office and shall be liable to be removed from his said office by the Selectmen whenever they shall deem it expedient so to do.

" Bye Law. —

" It is hereby ordered, that no Inhabitant of the town of Boston, or of any town in the vicinity thereof, not offering for sale the produce of his own farm, shall at any season of the year, be permitted to occupy any stand with Cart, Sleigh or otherwise, for the purpose of vending commodities in Dock Square, or in the square lying between Union Street and the Stalls to the North & West of the Market: — and if any such person shall presume to occupy with Cart, Sleigh or otherwise any stand in Dock Square, or in the square lying between Union Street & the Stalls to the north west of the Market, after being ordered to remove therefrom by the Clerk of the Market, or by any person thereunto authorized by the Selectmen of the town, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding five dollars nor less than two dollars for every hour, in which he shall continue to offend in this respect, the one moiety thereof to the use of the complainant, and the other moiety thereof to the use of the town.

All which is respectfully submitted by.

Peter O. Thacher
Benjamin Russell } Committee
Joseph Callender

[**117.**] The foregoing Report was read and accepted — And ordered that the Town Clerk lay the Bye Law contained in the said Report before Hon^{ble}. Justices of the Court of Sessions for confirmation.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Hon^{l}. John Phillips Esq^{r}. for his services as moderator of this meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned and assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the seventh day of April A. D. 1817 — 9 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. Doct^{r}. Baldwin.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, relative to the choice of Governour, Lieutenant Governour, and Senators. — read.

Law of the Commonwealth dividing the State into districts for the choice of Counsellors and Senators — read.—

It was afterwards determined that the Poll should be closed at 2 O'Clock — the Bells to begin tolling at half past one.

Persons voted for as Governour, with the number of votes for each person — viz

His Excellency John Brooks - - - - - - -	3578.—
Hon^{l}. Henry Dearborn - - - - - - -	1315.—
Nathaniel Noyes - - - - - - -	1.—
	4894 —

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governour, with the number of votes for each person — viz,

His Honour William Phillips - - - - - - -	3567 —
Hon^{l}. William King - - - - - - - -	1301
Edw^{d}. H. Robbins - - - - - - - -	1
William Gray - - - - - - - - - -	1
Joseph B. Varnum - - - - - - - -	2
W^{m}. Lawrence 2. Sam^{l}. Whitwell 1 - -	3
	4875

[118.] Persons voted for as Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person.

Hon^{l}. John Phillips - - - - - - - - - -	3556
" John Welles - - - - - - - - - -	3547
" Josiah Quincy - - - - - - - - - -	3502
" Thomas H. Perkins - - - - - - - -	3533
" Jonathan Hunnewell - - - - - - - -	3540
" Richard Sullivan - - - - - - - - -	3544
" Samuel Brown - - - - - - - - - -	1275
W^{m}. Little Esq^{r}. - - - - - - - - -	1270
D^{r}. W^{m}. Ingalls - - - - - - - - -	1273
James T. Austin Esq^{r}. - - - - - - -	1266
Thomas Badger Esq^{r}. - - - - - - -	1259
Henry Orne Esq^{r}. - - - - - - - - -	1253

David Townsend Esq^{r}. 19 — Daniel Carney 7 — Josiah Dow 3 — Nath^{l}. Fisher 2. W^{m}. Prescott 1 — Tristram Barnard 3 — Henry H. Tuckerman 2. R^{d}. D. Harris 1 — Joshua Clapp 2 — Jos. N. Howe 2 — W^{m}. A. Fales 1 — W^{m}. Mackay 1 — Frank Roberts 1 — Sam^{l}. Snelling 1. W^{m}. Bangs 2 — Rich^{d}. S. Howe 1 — W^{m}. Bordman 1 — W^{m}. Lawrence 1 — W^{m}. Foster 1 — Art^{s}. Ward 1 — Lorenzo Draper 2. W^{m}. Sullivan 2. John C. Jones 3. Geo. Cabot 1. H. G. Otis 3. Jon^{a}. Mason 1. Jos. Tilden 1. Dan^{l}. Sargent 1. James Robinson 1 — Bryant P. Tilden 1. Dan^{l}. Messenger 1 — H. Goodrich 1 — Joseph Smith 1 — James Carter 1 — Henry A. S. Dearborn 1. Will^{m}. Thompson j^{r}. 1. Simon Wilkinson 1 — Lamson Bullard 1. Dan^{l}. Tuttle 1. — P. F. Dagrand 1 — Barney Smith 1 — Gerry Fairbanks 1 — Th^{s}. K. Jones 1 — Jesse Putnam 1 — Sam^{l}. Billings 2 — Tho^{s}. Cushing 1 —

Attested Copies or return of the persons voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour & Senators for the District of Suffolk sealed up in open Town Meeting, after the vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law, and directed as follows — viz —

To Alden Bradford Esq^{r}. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. — Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour & Lieutenant Governour sealed up in open Town Meeting — Also for Six Senators for the District of Suffolk, directed in the same manner.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**119.**] At a Meeting of the male Citizens of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 22^{d} day of April A.D. 1817 —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Hon^{ble}. John Phillips Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator.

The meeting was called "to consider and act upon the petition of a number of the Inhabitants, that the Selectmen my be empowered to choose a Committee of such a number of discreet citizens as they may find expedient, to take into consideration the Bye Laws for the regulation of Carts & Trucks, and to report such modifications and changes of the present regulations as in the opinion of such Committee may be just and reasonable, and consistent with the rights and welfare of the community"

The Petition being read, it was moved and Voted, That the Selectmen of the Town of Boston be and they hereby are authorized & empowered to appoint a Committee consisting of seven

citizens of this town; which Committee shall have power to take into consideration the several orders & Bye Laws now in force regulating the carriage of goods, merchandize and all other articles, on Carts, Trucks or Waggons within said town; and to report at an adjourned meeting, all such amendments, alterations and additions to said orders and Bye Laws as in the opinion of said Committee may be necessary and proper.

Adjourned, to Tuesday the 6 day of May next — then to meet at this place at 10 O'Clock A.M. —

Tuesday May 6th.
The Town met according to adjournment.

The Moderator informed the Inhabitants that the Selectmen had, in conformity to a vote of the Town appointed

William Sullivan	Isaac Winslow
Thomas Badger	Benjamin Rich
Richard D. Tucker	Ebenr. Farley and

Josiah Bradlee Esqrs.

a Committee to take into consideration the petition relative to Carts & Trucks.

[**120.**] Mr. Wm. Sullivan Chairman of the Committee appointed for that purpose arose and stated to the meeting, that they had several times met upon the subject committed to them, but were not ready to report; and moved for an adjournment of the meeting to the fifth day of June next — The question being taken, it passed in the affirmative.

Adjourned to Thursday 5th. day of June next 10 O'Clock A.M.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, held at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 15th day of May A.D. 1817 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Holley.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Paragraphs of the Constitution relating to the choice of Representatives — read —

The return from the Board of Assistant Assessors signifying that the major and minor polls were 9448 — being also read.— The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for Representatives not exceeding forty two.—

The Poll was closed at half past 1 O'Clock.

The whole number of votes given in were 542 — necessary to make a choice 272

The following Gentlemen had a majority of Votes, and were declared to be duly elected Representatives for the year ensuing — viz^{t}.

Stephen Codman	Benjamin Whitwell
Josiah Bachelder	Benjamin Smith
Benjamin Russell	John Cotton
Thomas W. Sumner	Josiah Marshall
Benjamin Whitman	John Mackay
Charles Davis	Peter O. Thacher
W^{m}. H. Sumner	Joseph W. Revere
William Tudor jun^{r}.	Samuel Hubbard
[121.] John D. Howard	Benjamin Rand
Jonathan Loring	John French
Thomas Barry	Josiah Bradlee
Henry Sargent	David Sears
Benjamin Gorham	Edward T. Channing
John Howe	Samuel Swett and

Francis Bassett

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[122.] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 26 day of May A.D. 1817. — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Hon^{l}. John Phillips Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator.

Voted, That the Communication from Ward N. Boylston Esq^{r}. be referred to a Committee of the Town with instructions to report at an adjournment of the meeting a statement of facts, with their opinion as to the best course to be taken by the Town.

James T. Austin, Sam^{l}. Swett, Stephen Codman, Arnold Welles and Nathan Webb Esquires, were chosen a Committee agreeably to the above vote. —

The Committee appointed by the Town on the 10th day of March last, to "Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Work-house, and the Board of Health; with directions to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year," have attended to the service assigned them by examining the Accounts of the Town Treasurer and Collector, of the monies by him received and paid; they find the same right cast and well

vouched; that there results a balance of Eighteen thousand, Eight hundred, & fifty eight Dollars & forty cents remaining in the hands of the Treasurer belonging to the Town. This Account which is handed herewith, includes all the drafts made on the Treasurer by the Selectmen, Overseers and the Board of Health, who are authorized by the Town to appropriate the Towns money for the several purposes within their respective departments — the general particulars of which your Committee presume will appear by the statement which is annually made to the Town by the standing Committee of Finance; to which Report your Committee also refer the Town for the amount of the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year. — all which is respectfully submitted.

Stephen Codman Chairman
of Committee — p Order —

Boston May 1817.

[123.] Fifth annual report
of the Committee of Finance of the
Town of Boston.

The Committee of Finance of the Town of Boston, consisting of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, have attended to the duty assigned to them by the Town; have examined the Books of the Treasurer & Collector and are satisfied with the diligence and attention of that officer and with the accuracy of his accounts.

They present the following report.

The Amount of Warrants for taxes in 1816, given to the Treasurer & Collector, were

For State Tax - - - - - - - - - - - -	$26639.76
" Town & County Tax - - - - - - -	131015.94
	$157655.70

Amount received by the Treasurer from 1st Octr. 1816 to 20th. May 1817 - - - - - -	$144818.60
Amount of Abatements - - - - - - - -	7379.50
Balance remaining uncollected - - - - -	5457.60
	$157655.70

from which it appears, that the whole tax has been paid or settled in less than eight months, excepting about 5000 Dollars, from which the Treasurer estimates nearly one half may be collected: This promptness your Committee think honourable to the Treasurer and to the Inhabitants; and is an instance of well managed financial concerns, scarcely to be met with in any other City or Town containing so great a number of Inhabitants.

Dr. The Town of Boston.

On State Tax	$17141.33
County of Suffolk	12100..
Notes to several Persons	33500.
Mrs. Brookers donation, a fund the interest of which is paid annually to Widows and Sick persons	1230.
Balance unpaid on Selectmens and Overseers Drafts	158.60
	64129.93
Unliquidated Accounts	5870.7
	$70,000.

[124.] The Town of Boston — Cr.

By Several Notes for Land &c	$3539.73
Due for State Poor	7000.
" Taxes uncollected estimated, at	2000.
	$12539.73
Cash in the Treasury	18858.40
	31398.13
Balance	38601.87
	$70,000.—

The balance of the Account Current last year was	$39969.33
The above statement shows it to be at present	38601.87
	1367.46
And exhibits the sum paid this year of the old Debt	

A calculation was made in the last year's report to pay off 14000 Dollars of the Debt; but this expectation has not been realized, owing to unexpected demands in the Selectmens department, for improvements in streets to the amount of 8000 Dollars — and to the expences of the alms House, which have exceeded the estimates about 6000 Dollars in consequence of the hardships of the poor from the severity of Winter & the stagnation of Business. — These circumstances it is hoped, will not again occur to intercept the operation of the sinking fund; but to secure its

full effect, it is advisable to appropriate a larger amount than has been usual, to contingent unforseen expences.

The demands of the Town being as above stated - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	$70,000
Add thereto for current expences of the [year] as follows	
For Selectmen 70,000. Overseers $30,000 -	100,000
Board of Health - - - - - - - - - - - -	6,500
Amount of State Tax - - - - - - - - -	22,000
County Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - -	21,000
Interest on outstanding debt - - - - - - -	2400
	$221,900
From which deduct two installments of old Debt — each of 14000 dollars, to be paid in two succeeding years - - - - - -	28,000.
	$193,900.

[**125.**] To be provided for as follows

From money in the Treasury - - - - - - -		18858.40
Notes becoming due - - - - - - - - - -		3539.73
From Commonwealth for Poor - - - - - -		7000.
Rent of Market, Town house &c - - - - -		12000.
Taxes receivable, outstanding - - - - - -		2000.
Amount assessed for State tax - - - - - - - - - -	22000	
D°. - - County Tax -	21000	
D°. Town 107,501.87 Abatements 10,000 - - - - . -	117501.87	
		160501.87
		$203900.—

The Committee recommend, that the Town should vote a tax of 107501 Dollars & 10000 in addition to meet the abatements ; this amount will defray the current expences of the year & one installment of the deferred debt.

Respectfully submitted,
By Order of the Com^ee. of Finance.
Charles Bulfinch Chairman.

The foregoing report was read and accepted by the Town.

Voted, That the sum of one hundred and seventeen thousand, five hundred & one dollars, be raised by a tax to be assessd upon the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town, to defray the expences of the town the present year.

Upon the representation and exhibition of the doings and proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esq^r. Treasurer & Collector of Taxes of the Town of Boston the last year.

Voted, that the Town of Boston highly approve of the conduct of the said Andrew Sigourney Esq[r]. in the said offices of Treasurer and Collector, and that he has faithfully, as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said offices to which he has been appointed as aforesaid, and that he be excused from all delinquency or default in not having effected the full and complete settlement of the taxes by him to have been received or collected according to Law. —

[**126.**] The memorial of a number of the Inhabitants "That a suitable compensation be annexed to the office of Chairman of the Selectmen" being read — it was moved and

Voted, That the Memorial be referred to the Committee of Finance who are to enquire if the Chairman of the Selectmen is entitled to any Compensation — to determine upon the amount of such Compensation not exceeding One thousand Dollars. —

Edward Tuckerman
William Dall
Joshua Davis
William Hammatt
Peter O. Thacher and
Thomas Dawes Esq[rs].

were chosen Trustees of Neck Land.

Mess[rs]. Romanus Emerson &
Abel Hewens

were chosen Fence viewers for the District of South Boston.

Voted, That the Treasurer be authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding Seventy thousand dollars, if the same should be found necessary for the service of the Town. —

On the application of his Honour William Phillips Esq[r].

Voted, That the Town Treasurer be authorized and directed to receive from his Honour William Phillips, Esq[r]. the amount of the sum bequeathed to the Town by the Will of his late Father, towards the building of a Hospital, and to execute a Release for the same in behalf of the Town. and that the Town Treasurer pay the same to the Treasurer of the Massachusetts General Hospital to be applied to the purposes of that Institution.

The Selectmen laid before the town a list of persons they had selected to serve as Jurors, at any Court for which they may be drawn, for three years next ensuing.

Voted, That the Town accept the list of persons to serve as Jurors, presented by the Selectmen, and confirm their doings. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to cause *a Pound* to be built in South Boston, in such a situation as they shall consider best suited to the public convenience.

[127.] Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto the Hon^ble. Thomas Dawes the sum of Seven hundred and fifty dollars as his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court for the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk the sum of One thousand dollars as his Salary for the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of the Town of Boston the sum of One thousand Dollars to each of the permanent Assessors of the Town for the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto Andrew Sigourney Esq^r. the sum of three thousand Dollars, in full for his services as Town Treasurer & Collector of taxes, for Clerk hire and all other expences in the delivery of tax bills & collection of taxes.

The Petition of a number of the Inhabitants for additional Schools, was referred to the School Committee, with the addition of one person from each ward, to be appointed by the Selectmen.

Adjourned to Thursday the 5 day of June next 10 O'Clock A.M. —

Monday June 5^th. 1817 —

Met according to adjournment from the 6^th. Ultim^o.

The Moderator being absent

Stephen Codman Esq^r.

was chosen Moderator, Pro. tem.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Petition of Adam Smith, and others, Truckmen, beg leave to report. —

That as the Streets of Boston are, and lawfully may be used as highways by persons who *are not* subject to those restrictions which may be imposed on the inhabitants of the town, great damage will continue to be done by the carrying of heavy loads on the streets and which cannot be prevented by any town authority unless further power should be given by the Legislature. It appears to the Committee reasonable, that *carriers*, who live in adjoining towns, and whose usual & daily employment is the transportation of various articles to and from the places of business in this town, should be restrained in the carrying of loads as the [128] Inhabitants of the town are restrained. Whether it will be expedient to regulate this intercourse between this town, and other towns, and the mode of doing it, if it can, & ought to be done, should be left, as the Committee conceive, to the discretion of the Selectmen, with the request on the part of the Inhabitants of the Town, that the Selectmen would petition

for any further legislative provisions on these subjects, which they may find to be proper: and make such representations to the proprietors of *Bridges*, which lead into the town, as they may find to be expedient. —

The Committee have diligently inquired concerning the loads which are usually carried in the streets of the town by the inhabitants thereof & have examined the Bye Laws now in force on this subject; they find that it is not unlawful to carry one perch of Stone; or twenty bushels of gravel or sand; or one Chaldron of Coal; or six feet of Wood; or one thousand feet of board; in any one load; each of which are equal, at least to one ton and an half in weight, and that no complaint is made of such loads, nor is any injury supposed to be done to the streets by the carry thereof; nor is it supposed, that any load which can be conveniently & easily, drawn by two horses, on wheels, (with the width of tire, which the Law now requires) will do any injury to the streets, excepting in the spring season; and the Committee, having to propose regulations for *carrying*, during the spring season, are of opinion, that the petition to be allowed to carry a weight not exceeding one ton & an half is reasonable; and that no greater weight than one ton and an half, ought to be drawn by two horses, within the Town of Boston.

They beg leave to present, for the consideration of the town, votes which express the result of their deliberations on this subject.

The Committtee have also considered whether any and what change could be made in the form of the trucks now in use, and have obtained information as to the forms in use in other great towns.

In most of the Southern Cities, *one horse Carts* are used, excepting for the bringing heavy articles from the Country. [**129**] many persons are desirous of introducing the like mode of carrying among us; or of reducing the length of the truck now in use, and the Committee attended to every suggestion of this nature, with an earnest disposition to discover & propose to the town such reform as would be generally acceptable; They have come to the conclusion that carrying is no where done with more safety and expedition than in this town; — that with the introduction of one horse cars would come difficulties much less tolerable than those now complained of; and that important disadvantages would accrue from the use of such cars which the Committee need not enumerate in this report; and among them, that the side ways would be oftener, and longer, and more inconveniently obstructed in the places of business than they now are, while the cars were loading & unloading; and that the number of moving obstructions in the streets from the necessarily increased number of vehicles, which would be used therein. — The Committee believe that the present form of Trucks may be easily passed, when moving in the street as a Waggon drawn by

two horses could be passed; and that the principal objection to the present form is, that when set across some streets to load and unload, a sufficient and convenient width for passing is not left; and the Committee recommend that the Bye-Laws on this subject should be most rigidly enforced. — The Committee, after the most diligent attention to this subject, are not able to propose any reform which can, and ought to be, effected by Law, or by the regulations of the town.

They believe that if any change for the better can be effected, it must result from *experiment* and that this could be made by a voluntary association among individuals, who might, at a small expence, or at the expence of the town, under the direction of the Selectmen, ascertain whether any changes can be made whereby the business of the town might be done more conveniently and advantageously than at present: and that while the present form of trucks continues, it would be most convenient to the truck owners, and to those who employ them to have the length of the truck twenty four feet & six inches, and not twenty five feet as some of them now are. —

The Committee have proposed and herewith submit the votes they suppose to be proper on this subject for the consideration of **[130]** the Town. — The Committee also considered the *cruelty*, which is so often practised in the streets on *horses* used in the draft and are certain that they express the feelings of their fellow citizens, in reprobating this practice as *inhuman*, in those who are guilty of it; and as disgraceful to the town.

It may not be proper to found legislative provisions upon those sentiments which are commonly felt for the most noble, generous, and useful of animals, but it is certainly, one of the most imperious duties of all well ordered society, to prevent, whenever it can be done, oppression and cruelty.

All citizens have a common right in the streets; and the right to use them, without being afflicted by scenes of suffering, which are occasioned by mere wantonness and barbarity.

The use of *the whip* is, sometimes necessary, and justifiable; but all citizens whose business requires the power of horses, have, it is to be presumed, such, as can perform all proper and reasonable labor, by ordinary caution, and without distressing violence.

It is believed to be no less for the interest, than it is the duty, of such citizens, not to take persons into employ, who have no feeling for the animals, which are submitted to their power, nor any regard, while exercising power, for the feelings of their fellow men.

The Committee beg leave to offer to the town such votes on this subject as have appeared to them necessary. signed,

W^m^. Sullivan, Josiah Bradlee, Eben^r^. Farley

Benj. Rich, Tho^s^. Badger, Isaac Winslow. — Committee Boston June 4^th^. 1817.—

The foregoing Report was read and accepted by the town, and the following Bye Laws were passed, and ordered to be laid before the Court of Session for confirmation.

1st.

It is hereby ordered — That no truck shall be used within the town of Boston, the length whereof from the end of the shaft, to the extreme end of the side shall be greater than twenty four feet and six inches; and that any regulation or Bye Law now in force inconsistent with this provision, be and the same is hereby repealed; and that if any truck shall hereafter be used of greater length than twenty four [131] feet and six inches the owner thereof shall forfeit and pay the sum of Five dollars for every time such truck is used.

2d.

It is hereby Ordered — That it shall be lawful to carry on any truck, Cart, or Waggon any load the weight whereof shall not exceed one ton and an half, excepting in the spring season; and if any load shall be carried within the town of greater weight than the aforesaid weight, on any truck, cart or waggon, the driver thereof and the owner thereof, shall severally forfeit and pay the sum of five dollars. excepting those loads which consist [of] one article which cannot be separated.

3d.

It is hereby Ordered — That the Selectmen be and they hereby are authorized and empowered to regulate and order from time to time, in the successive years, the weight of any loads, and of all loads, which may be carried within the town in the spring season, while the streets are liable to be injured by the carrying of heavy loads thereon; and that it shall be the duty of the Selectmen to give public notice in each successive year of the day on which the restrictions which they make shall begin and end.—

4th.

It is hereby Ordered — That if there shall be carried a greater weight, than the Selectmen may permit to be carried, in the spring season, there shall be forfeited and paid the sum of five dollars, to be recovered of the driver of the vehicle whereon the same is carried, or of the owner of such vehicle. —

5th.

It is hereby Ordered — That if any truck, or Cart, shall be so placed in any street, within this town, either to load or unload, as not to leave a sufficient space for the passing of any other truck, cart or carriage of any description, the owner of any truck or cart so placed, & the driver thereof, shall severally, forfeit, and pay, the sum of two dollars for every such offence. — Provided that it shall be lawful to take a reasonable time for the loading and unloading of heavy articles not exceeding six minutes. —

6th.

[132.] It is hereby ordered — That if any person who shall be employed in the driving or conducting of any cart, Waggon, truck carriage or other vehicle whatsoever, which is drawn by one horse, or more horses than one, shall unnecessarily & unreasonably beat, or cruelly use any horse or horses, under his care or management, within the town of Boston, such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of Five Dollars; and the Owner or owners of such Cart, Waggon, truck, carriage or other vehicle shall forfeit and pay the sum of Five Dollars for every such offence.

7th.

It is hereby Ordered — That all the aforegoing penalties and forfeitures shall be recovered on complaint, and on due proof and evidence, before any Justice of the Peace, together with costs of prosecution, to the use of the town of Boston. — And that it shall be the duty of the officers of Police to complain of, and prosecute all offences herein provided against, which may come to their knowledge. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[133.] The Town met agreeably to an adjournment from the 26 Ultimo.

The Moderator being absent

Stephen Codman Esqr.
was chosen Moderator Pro. Tem.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of Ward Nicholas Boylston Esquire with instructions to report a state of facts, and their opinion as to the best course to be taken by the town, have attended to that service, and Respectfully Report

That the late Thomas Boylston by his last will and testament, on which probate was granted in 1799 devised and bequeathed to the Town of Boston "all his estate personal and real" for certain uses and intentions in the same minutely set forth: a copy of which will is on the files of the town. —

The gross amount of property bequeathed to the town by this will, as far as your Committee can ascertain the same, after paying the debts of the Testator, and not including arrears of interest, (if any is due) amounts to the sum of . - $68500
in money, — and in certain real estate set off on
Execution for the sum of - - - - - - - - - 81500.—

$150000.—

The Committee have not added Interest, because none could fairly be calculated, except on the balance in the hands of the administrator, after deducting expences; nor for a longer time than such balance was actually in his hands and as a considerable portion of the above sum is in unproductive real estate & nearly fifty thousand dollars in the hands of the assignees under a former Commission of Bankruptcy against the Testator, and not reduced to the possession of the Administrator, it is the opinion of the Committee, that an interest account would not add much to the above sum.

[**134.**] But even this sum is altogether nominal, and the Committee have no reason to believe, that if all controversy was at an end, the property could be made to produce more than *seventy five thousand dollars.*

1st. Because the nominal estimate of the real estate, is known to be vastly above its present value, as is proved by the fact, that the estate in Princetown set off for $46700 and two thousand dollars in addition, has been offered to the town as an equivalent for $15,000 only.

2d. Because the collection of this sum, under the peculiar embarrassments attending it, has been charged with very heavy expences, among which is an undisputed annuity of $520 to Mr. Gill, and a litigated claim of £200 Stg. p annum to the former partner of the late Mr. Boylston in England.

Admitting therefore, that the Town could realize the benefits intended by the munificent Testator, it is probable, in the opinion of your Committee, that they would receive about *Seventy five thousand dollars.*

Soon after the decease of Mr. Boylston, his Will was communicated to the inhabitants in legal town meeting assembled, and the Selectmen were constituted agents for the town with all necessary powers, to enforce the payment of this liberal donation. Having obtained advice of eminent Counsel, they caused proper legal measures to be instituted, and during the last fifteen years, there has been a continued litigation with the administrator, without obtaining any beneficial result or coming within the prospect of a favorable termination.

During the whole of this perplexed & troublesome concern, the Gentlemen who have successively sat at the board of Selectmen have bestowed on it an indefatigable and patient attention, which entitles them to the respect and gratitude of their constituents; and it [is] certainly not owing to any want of intelligence or fidelity on their part, that the town is yet kept out of the possession of property, which it was the undoubted intention of the Testator should long since have been appropriated to their use.

[**135.**] Peculiar difficulties attend the prosecution of the Town's claims; chiefly however from the fact, that the will being made in a foreign Country, by a subject of the same, redress must be sought through the intervention of foreign Courts, and by the application of foreign Laws. —

Your Committee do not deem it useful to enumerate the difficulties in such a process; nor can they decide between the conflicting opinion of Counsel as to its final result. In this doubtful course of litigation, they can find nothing certain, but *continual accumulating*, ruinous expence. —

As this expence must be borne by each of the parties, while the suit during its continuance, locks up the property from both, the administrator and the agents of the town have repeatedly turned their attention to the expediency of a compromise.

M^r^. Boylston originally offered $10,000 in three per Cent Stock, for a full release; but this sum was with great propriety rejected by the Selectmen. Fifteen thousand dollars were subsequently offered, payable without interest in part, at a future day; and Twenty five thousand demanded by the Selectmen; at which stage of the business it was again brought before the Town, and the present Committee appointed to consider & report the best course to be adopted.

Your Committee have the satisfaction to add, that the administrator has well proposed to pay Twenty thousand dollars as a compensation for receiving a full discharge; and has agreed that it shall bear interest from the day that his proposition is accepted by the Town; which offer is more advantageous by *six thousand two hundred* dollars than any one hitherto made.

The Committee unanimously recommend that this proposition be accepted by the Town; and thus that an end be put to all further litigation and expence. It being understood, that this sum which will be freed from the incumbrances, which shackle the bequests of the will, and that it is to be used and appropriated as the Town in its wisdom shall be pleased to direct. — In order to complete this Contract with M^r^. Boylston, and execute the legal instruments which are necessary to give efficacy to the compromise, the Committee have prepared the Vote hereunto annexed for the approbation of the Town. —

All which is respectfully submitted — p^r^. order

James T. Austin Chairman of the Committee.

[**136.**] The foregoing representations were read & accepted, — and Voted, That James T. Austin, Samuel Swett, Stephen Codman, Arnold Welles & Nathan Webb Esq^rs^. be appointed agents on the part of the Town of Boston, with full powers to make execute & deliver in due form of Law to Ward Nicholas Boylston Esquire but *at his expence and cost* full perfect & complete releases, acquittance and discharge of all & every claim and demand of said Town upon said Ward Nicholas Boylston in his capacity of Administrator with the will annexed, of the goods & estate, which were of Thomas Boylston, late of London, in the Kingdom of Great Britain, deceased: and of all legacies, rights and interest under the Will aforesaid — which said release and discharge the said agents are authorized and empowered to make and deliver, if the said Ward Nicholas Boylston shall within sixty days from this date secure to said town of Boston by

Mortgage of real estate within the same to the satisfaction of said Agents, the payment of the sum of Twenty thousand dollars, by equal instalments in two, three, four and five years with interest from the date hereof annually on the whole sum that shall be due, except that no interest shall be payable until two years from this date.

And that after the execution and delivery of the mortgage aforesaid by the said Boylston, that the Selectmen of said Boston be requested to execute and deliver to said Boylston all such releases and discharge *at his expence*, as may be necessary to exonerate him from any liability to them in their capacity of Trustees under the will aforesaid —

Voted, That James T. Austin, Samuel Swett, Stephen Codman, Arnold Wells & Nathan Webb Esq^rs^. be a Committee in addition to the Selectmen, to receive, adjust and bring to final settlement the accounts and demands for services of the several Gentlemen who have been employed as counsel in the suit of the Judge of Probate or of the Town against Ward Nicholas Boylston Esquire, administrator of the Estate of Thomas Boylston Esquire.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[137.] At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 5^th^. day of June A. D. 1817 — 11 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Stephen Codman Esq^r^. was chosen Moderator.—

This Meeting was called "To adopt suitable measures to evidence the respect of the Inhabitants for the President of the United States, on his expected visit to this metropolis — On Motion

Voted, That a Committee of nine persons be chosen to consider and report to this meeting, what measures it will be expedient for the Town to adopt to express, their respect for the President of the United States, upon his expected visit.—

The following Gentlemen were nominated from the Chair and chosen on the Committee — viz^t^.

Hon^ble^. Harrison G. Otis	Hon^l^. Wm. Gray
Gen^l^. Arnold Welles	James T. Austin Esq^r^.
George Blake Esq^r^.	Benjamin Russell Esq^r^.
William Sullivan Esq^r^.	William H. Sumner Esq^r^.

Israel Thorndike Esq^r^.

The above Committee reported the following resolutions which were read and unanimously adopted by the Town —

Whereas the President of the United States is expected to visit this town, and it is the desire of the citizens that he should be received with all the demonstrations of respect and attention which are due to the station and character of the first Magistrate of the Union.

[**138.**] Therefore Resolved — That the Selectmen joined by a Committee of thirteen citizens, now to be chosen, be requested to provide for the suitable reception and accommodation of the President of the United States and his suit during their residence in the town.

Resolved, That the Selectmen and the said Committee be requested to meet and receive the President of the United States upon his entrance into the Town, and that they, accompanied by such citizens as may attend them, and by such military escort as may be provided by the proper authorities, conduct him to his lodgings; and that they, in behalf of the Citizens of Boston, present to him as expressive of the satisfaction felt by them, in the presence of so distinguished a visitor; of their disposition & desire to contribute by all the means in their power to his comfort & pleasure during his stay in this Metropolis, and of their sincere wishes that his health may be preserved, that his administration may secure the peace & honor, promote the prosperity and command the gratitude and affection of a free people.

Resolved, That said Committee may also make such arrangements for the occasion as they may deem expedient. —

Voted, that the Committee of nine chosen this day, with the addition of Major Gen[l]. Dearborn
Tho[s]. H. Perkins
James Prince and
Aaron Hill Esquires
be the Committee, named in the first resolution.

Voted that the thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator for his services at this meeting.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**139.**] The following address of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, to the President of the United States of America was agreeably to a vote of the Town at their late meeting, this day presented him by the Committee of arrangements.

To the President of the United States

Sir,

The Citizens of Boston, by their Committee appointed for that purpose, beg leave to offer you their cordial and respectful salutations upon your arrival in their metropolis.

The visit with which you are pleased to honour them, recalls to the recollection of many their interview with your illustrious predecessor, the Father of his Country, on a similar occasion. They remember with great satisfaction, the hope, the confidence, and the fond anticipation of national prosperity which his presence inspired; and it is now, Sir, a subject of congratulation to you and to themselves, that after thirty years of eventful experiment, during conflicts and revolutions in the old world which have threatened all, and subverted many of its ancient governments, the Constitution which was adopted under the auspices of that great man, has acquired vigour and maturity, and that in a season of profound peace his successor is permitted by the prosperous state of public affairs, to follow his example, in visiting the extensive country over which he has recently been called to preside.

While this journey affords to many of your [**140**] fellow citizens the opportunity and advantage of commencing with you a personal acquaintance, which is always desirable between a people and their rulers, they rejoice at the same time in the belief that the local information relative to the great and various interests of the United States, which you will derive from actual observation, will facilitate your arrangements for their defence and security; and enable you to apply in practice, with additional confidence, and success, those principles of an elevated and impartial policy which you have been pleased to promulgate as the basis of your intended administration.

Called to the service of your Country at an early period of life, and distinguished in the arduous struggle which obtained its Independence, your subsequent occupations in successive important offices and various departments, at home & abroad, have afforded you the means of becoming conversant with the foreign and domestic relations of the Nation, and with those qualifications you are now raised to the highest dignity, which can be conferred by a free People.

These public claims to consideration and attention from all descriptions of your fellow Citizens, are cheerfully admitted by the citizens of Boston, who are also desirous of evincing their respect for the unblemished tenor of your private character, and their sense of the urbanity and hospitality which peculiarly characterized your deportment towards all those of your countrymen, who during the period of your foreign embassies, were so fortunate as to come within [**141**] the sphere of your civilities and protection.

It is therefore with real satisfaction, that they received you within the precincts of Boston; and they pray you to be assured of their earnest solicitude to contribute by all the means at their command to your comfort and enjoyment during your residence in this Town.

They also, confiding in the rectitude of your intentions and trusting that the powers vested in you by the Constitution, will be exercised with a sincere regard to the welfare of the people,

whose precious interests are committed to your charge, avail themselves of this occasion, to express their ardent hope that the favorable circumstances which attend the commencement of your administration may with the blessing of Heaven, under your guidance, concur to promote the advancement of our beloved Country, to the highest possible condition of prosperity.

With these sentiments they unite their best wishes for your health and happiness: and that the course and close of your administration may entitle you to the gratitude and affections of your constituents, and the respect of posterity.

By order of the Committee.

Charles Bulfinch
Chairman.

[**142.**] To which the President returned the following Answer.

Fellow Citizens

The kind reception which you have given me, on the part of the citizens of Boston, and which their conduct has so fully confirmed, has made a deep and lasting impression on my mind, which you will have the goodness to communicate to them.

As no person is more willing than I am, in the discharge of my duty, according to the fair exercise of my judgment, to take example from the conduct of the distinguished men who have preceded me in this high trust [it] is particularly gratifying to me, to have recalled by this incident, to the memory of many who are now present, a like visit from the illustrious commander of our revolutionary army; who by many other important services, had so just a claim to the revered title of Father of his country — It was natural that the presence of a citizen, so respected and beloved, who had so eminently contributed to the establishment of this government, and to whom its administration in the commencement had been committed, should inspire an enlightened, a virtuous and free people, with unlimited confidence in its success; and it is a cause of general felicitation and joy to us all to find that thirty years successful experiment, have justified that confidence and realized our most sanguine hopes in its favour. Yes fellow [**143**] citizens, we instituted a government for the benefit of all; a government which should secure to us the full enjoyment of all our rights, religious and civil; and it has been so administered.

Let us then unite in grateful acknowledgments to the Supreme Author of all good, for extending to us so great a blessing. Let us unite in fervent prayers, that He will be graciously pleased to continue that blessing to us, and our latest posterity.

I accepted the trust, to which I have been called by my fellow citizens with diffidence, because I well knew the frailty of human nature, and had often experienced my own deficiencies.

I undertook this tour, with a view and in the hope of acquiring knowledge which might enable me to discharge my various and

important duties with greater advantage to my country, to which my whole mind, and unwearied efforts shall always be directed. In pursuing objects so dear to us all, I rely with confidence on the firm and generous support of my fellow Citizens throughout our happ Union.

James Monroe.

[**144.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Friday the 4th day of July A. D. 1817 10 O'clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Thomas Clark was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported That they had chosen Edward T. Channing Esqr. who had accepted the appointment.

Adjourned to meet at the old South Church at 12 Oclock M.

Met at the Old South church where an Oration was delivered by Edward T. Channing Esqr. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted That the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Edward T. Channing Esqr. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence in which were considered the feelings, manners and principles which produced the great National event, and the important and happy effects general and domestic, which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch, and to request of him a copy for the press.

Voted, That the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on [**145**] the 4th July 1818. That day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the orator is to consider the feelings, manners, and principles which led to this great national event as well as the important and happy effects which have already, or will forever flow from that Auspicious Epoch.

Then this meeting was Dissolved.

[**146.**] At a convention of the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 24th day of July A. D. 1817 4 O'clock P. M.

Present A Majority of each Board.

Voted to proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Mess Hunnewell & Jackson a Committee, to receive, sort and count the votes.

Votes being taken for a Town Treasurer, Andrew Sigourney Esqr. was declared to be unanimously Chosen.

Voted to come to the choice of one Collector of taxes for the ensuing year.

Votes being taken, Andrew Sigourney Esqr. was chosen unanimously.

Mr. Sigourney having been notified of his appointment to the above offices, declared his acceptance; and proposed Hon. Jonathan Hunnewell and Benj. Weld Esqr. as his Bondsmen.

Voted that the above named Gentlemen be accepted as Mr. Sigourneys bondsmen, and that they execute a bond of Twenty thousand dollars as Treasurer, and another bond for the same sum as Collector of taxes.

Voted That Turner Phillips, Ozias Goodwin & Benj. Whitman Esqrs. be a committee to see that the Bonds are given by the Treasurer & Collector of Taxes, and that he is qualified according to law.

[**147.**] A memorial from a number of the Inhabitants, proposing that a suitable salary be annexed to the office of Chairman of the Selectmen — and the vote of the Town thereon, referring the subject to this Convention, were now read and considered — and

Voted, That in the opinion of this convention, it is expedient and proper that a suitable compensation be annexed to the office of Chairman of the Selectmen.

Voted That a Salary of one thousand dollars be paid to the Chairman of the Selectmen from the Town Treasury for the present year.

Convention Dissolved.

[**148.**] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified to vote for Representatives in the General Court of this Commonwealth, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 17th. day of November A. D. 1817.

10 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Dwight.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

A precept from the Governor & Council directing the Selectmen to call a meeting for choice of a Member of Congress, in the room of the Hon. James Lloyd, resigned, was also read.

The Inhabitants were requested to bring in their votes for a Representative for the Suffolk District, in the Congress of the United States & that the Selectmen propose to close the Poll at half past one O'clock.

Persons Voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the present Congress of the United States viz.

			Hon. Jonathan Mason		1664
			Andrew Ritchie Esqr.		—1376
			Hon. Daniel Webster	—	7
Wm. Sullivan	—	4	Wm. H. Sumner	2.—	6
John Welles	—	1	Rich'd Sullivan	1 —	2
James T. Austin	—	1	P. O. Thatcher - -	1 —	2
Thos. H. Perkins	—	1	R. G. Amory - - -	1 —	2
Ben. Russell	—	1	Jacob Stearns - -	1 —	2
Frederick F. Lane	—	1	Wm. Wood - - - -	1 —	2
Danl. Treadwell	—	1	Abm. F. Howe - -	1 —	2
					3065

A return of the doings of this meeting [**149**] was made out, conformable to the printed directions of the General Court and delivered by the Town Clerk to the Sheriff of the County of Suffolk.

Then this Meeting was Dissolved.

1818.

[**150.**] At a meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 9th. day of March A.D. 1818.

10 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev. M^r. Ballou.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Law respecting the Election of Town Officers read.

Hon. John Phillips Esq^r. chosen Moderator.

Thomas Clark, was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and the oath of Office was administered to him by the Moderator

Turner Phillips	Joseph Austin
Ebenezer Oliver	Henry Bass
Jonathan Hunnewell	Samuel Dorr
Joseph Lovering	Enoch Silsby and

Henry Farnum Esquires

were Chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be presented to Charles Bulfinch Esq^r. for his able and faithful services as a Selectman for twenty two years nineteen of which he with great ability discharged the duties of Chairman of that board.

The oath of office was administered to [**151**] the eight first named Selectmen by the Moderator.

Hon. William Phillips	Joseph Richards
Redford Webster	Jonathan Phillips
Thomas Perkins	Samuel May
Samuel Snelling	Jacob Hall
William Mackay	Edward Tuckerman Jr. &
Joseph Coolidge Jr.	Samuel H. Walley Esq^r.

were chosen Overseers of the Poor and of the work house for the year ensuing.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given Ozias Goodwin Esq^r. for his faithful services as one of the Overseers of the Poor for many years past.

Voted That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be Chosen a *School Committee;* and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz.

Doct. Aaron Dexter	Charles Davis Esq^r.
" Thomas Welch [**152**]	Francis J. Oliver
" John C. Warren	Peter O. Thatcher
Rev. Charles Lowell	William Wells
Horace Holley	Benjamin Russell &
Joshua Huntington	Henry J. Oliver Esq^r

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be and hereby

are directed to carry the System of education adopted by the town into operation, and that said Committee be also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools, and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools and School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorised by the laws of this Commonwealth or by the votes of the Town to exercise.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Wigglesworth Esq^{r}. for his services as one of the School Committee for several years past.

Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Tilden Esq^{r}. for his faithful services as one of the fire Wards for several years past.

	Thomas Melville	Samuel M. Thayer
	Andrew Cunningham	Joseph Austin
	John Winslow	Benjamin Rich
	Stephen Codman	Joseph Lovering
	Jonathan Hunnewell	Gedney King
	Daniel Messenger	Francis J. Oliver
[153.]	Joshua Davis	John D. Williams
	Benjamin Smith	William Harris
	James Phillips	Jonathan Loring
	Nathaniel Curtis	John Mackay
	Bryant P. Tilden	Turner Phillips &
	Nathan Webb	Lemuel Shaw Esq^{rs}.

were chosen Fire Wards for the year ensuing.

Votes were received for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk, by the Moderator & Town Clerk, when it appeared that John Winslow Esq^{r}. had one hundred & ninety five votes and Jonathan Hunnewell Esq^{r}. one Vote.

Mess^{rs}.	Benjamin White	[154]	William Ellison
	William Clouston		Nathaniel Glover
	Nathaniel Bradlee		John Howe Jr.
	Noah Doggett		Richard Thayer
	Braddock Loring		Edward J. Robbins
	Thomas Christie		Henry Blake
	William Green		Joseph Tucker
	Eleazer Homer		Moses Eayers Jr.
	Joseph Stodder		Benjamin Harris &
	Allen Bowker		Oliver Mills —

were chosen Surveyors of Lumber.

Mess.	Henry Purkitt	Nathaniel Howe &
	Benjamin Clark	Benjamin Owen

were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves.

Mess. Thomas Barbour
Nathaniel Howe
Benjamin Clark
Charles Pook
John Bannister
Benjamin Owen
James Brown
William J. Hammatt
Thomas Lombard &
Walter Jackson
were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

Mess. Benjamin White
Nathaniel Bradlee
William Ellison &
John Howe Jr.
were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

[155.] Mess. Barney Sloan
Joseph Champney
Joseph Selaway
Neddy Curtis &
James Baxter
were chosen Hogreeves & Haywards for the year ensuing.

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esq^rs.
were chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

Edward Tuckerman &
Josiah Snelling Esq^rs.
were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

Mess. John Wells and
Nathaniel Alley
were chosen Assay Masters.

Mess. Michael Homer
Francis James and
Samuel Sprague
were chosen Inspectors of Lime.

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of High Way.

Voted, That Stephen Codman, Francis J. Oliver and Robert G. Shaw Esq^rs. be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer and said Committee are directed to report the Sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

Voted, That the consideration of all money matters be referred to the May meeting.

The Article in the Warrant "to take into consideration the petition of David Greenough & others before [156] the Legislature for a new market" was taken up and Committed to
Hon. John Wells Esq^r.
Thomas Badger
Samuel Hubbard
William Sullivan
James T. Austin
Joshua Davis &
Jonathan Loring Esq^r.

Voted That the Above Committee be instructed to consider the expediency of enlarging the Market, and also the mode of effecting that Object.

On the Application of Jacob Tidd Junior
Voted, That the Selectmen or a major part of them be a Committee to fill and dispose of a lot of land belonging to the Town, bounded on Ivers & Portland Streets, on such terms as they shall deem to be for the interest of the Town; and to make and execute a deed of the same to the purchaser according to Law.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator, and then the Meeting was

Dissolved.

[**157.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, & legally warned & assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the sixth day of April A. D. 1818. 9 O'clock A. M.

Prayer by Rev. M^{r}. Eaton.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor, Lieutenant Governor & Senators read.—

Law of the Commonwealth dividing the State into Districts for the choice of Counsellors and Senators read.

It was afterwards determined that the Poll should be closed at 2 O'clock, the Bells to Commence tolling at half past one.

Persons voted for as Governor with the number of votes for each person viz.

His Excellency John Brooks - - - - - - - -	2,999
Hon. Benjamin W. Crowninshield - - - - - -	744
Hon. Benjamin Austin - - - - - - - - - -	3
Hon. Henry Dearborn - - - - - - - - - -	1
	3,747

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governor, with the number of Votes for each person viz.

His Honor William Phillips	2,984
Hon Thomas Kittredge	760
Hon Joseph B. Varnum 1. Ch^{s}. Callender 1	2
Josiah Quincy 3. W^{m}. Lawrence — 2	5
John Bellows 1. Henry Homer — 1	2
	3,753

[**158.**] Persons voted for as Counsellors & Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each person, viz.

Hon John Phillips	3,000
" Josiah Quincy	2,815
" Jonathan Hunnewell	2,933
" James Lloyd	2,976
" Artemas Ward	2,939
" Andrew Richie Eqs^{r}.	2,942
" Henry Dearborn	776
" William Gray	771
" Samuel Brown	753
William Little Esq^{r}.	697
William Ingalls	737
Thomas Badger	737
James T. Austin	76
Alex^{r}. H. Everett	38

Benjamin Russell Esq^{r}.	7	Benjamin Smith	1
Jeremiah Fitch	1	Joseph N. Howe	1
John Lowell	4	Samuel Swett	2
Daniel Jackson	1	Simeon Gardner	1
Henry Orne	3	Daniel Messinger	1
Amos Binney	1	Lemuel Shaw	3
Sam^{l}. H. Walley	1	Benj^{n}. Whitman	6
Benjamin Austin	3	Eben Clough	3
Ch^{s}. P. Sumner	3	John Brazier	4
Aaron Hill	3	Henry Lewis	4
Charles Austin	5	Geo. Sullivan	1
Samuel Hubbard	2	Jos. F. Bordman	1
Richard Sullivan	1	John Fitch.	1
Nath^{l}. P. Hunt	1	Lorenzo Knapp	1
Thomas Melvill	1	Dan^{l}. Webster	7
William Tudor Jr.	1	Samuel Cobb	1
William Lawrence	3	Benjamin Gorham	1
John Wells	1	George Cabot	1
Joseph Head	1	John Gray	1
[**159.**] Joseph Tilden	4	Charles Davis	1
William Sullivan	8	Tristram Barnard	3
Daniel Parkman	2	Henry S. Low	2
Caleb Loring	1	Jon^{a}. Loring	1
George Hallet	4	James Robinson	1
Edward Gray	1	Peter McIntosh	1

George Hastings - - - -	1	Gideon Snow - - - - -	1
John Roulstone - - - -	1	Joseph Eaton - - - - -	2
William Sturgis - - - -	1	Nath[l]. Goddard - - - -	1

Attested copies of Return of the Persons voted for as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors & Senators for the District of Suffolk, were sealed up in open town Meeting (after the vote had been declared), to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law, and directed as follows viz.

To Alden Bradford Esq[r]. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Votes of the Town of Boston for Governor & Lieutenant Governor, sealed up in open Town Meeting.

Also for six Counsellors & Senators for the District of Suffolk, directed in the same manner.

Then this Meeting was Dissolved.

[**160.**] At a meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes held at Faneuil Hall, on Thursday the 14[th] day of May A.D. 1818 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev. M[r]. Parkman.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution relating to the choice of Representatives read.

The Inhabitants were requested to bring in their votes for one, or more persons to represent the Town in the next General Court.

The Poll was closed at half past One O'clock when it appeared that the whole number of votes given in was — 796
necessary to make a choice — 399

The following Gentlemen had a majority of Votes, and were declared to be duly elected Representatives for the year ensuing. Viz.

Mess. Stephen Codman	Benjamin Russell
Benjamin Whitman	Charles Davis
William H. Sumner	Nathan[l]. Curtis
John Howe	Jonathan Loring
Benjamin Gorham	Benjamin Smith
John Cotton	Benjamin Rand
David Sears	Francis Bassett
Enoch Silsby	

Then this Meeting was Dissolved.

[**161.**] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 25th. day of May A.D. 1818.

10 O'clock. A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Joseph Phillips Esqr. chosen Moderator.

Edward Tuckerman
William Dall
Joshua Davis
William Hammatt
Peter O. Thatcher Esqr. &
Thomas Dawes Esqr. were
Chosen Trustees of Neck Lands.

Mess. Romanus Emerson &
Abel Hewens were chosen
Fence Viewers for the District of South Boston.

The Article in the Warrant "to determine if the Town will furnish the funds necessary for erecting two additional School houses, which the School Committee at a legal Meeting on the 15th inst voted were necessary" was taken up & on
Motion
Voted That the Town Treasurer be authorized to borrow on the credit of the Town a sum not exceeding twenty thousand Dollars for the express purpose of erecting two additional School houses in the Town for the use of the Town; which schools shall be called the Boylston town Schools and that the like sum of twenty thousand Dollars from the money secured to be paid to the Town [**162**] by Ward N. Boylston Esqr. arising out of the will of the late Thomas Boylston of London Esqr. deceased, with the Interest accruing thereon, be appropriated to the discharge of this debt.

The Report of the Auditors of the Town Treasurers Accounts and of the Committee of Finance being read.

It was Voted, That the Report of the Committee on the finances of the Town be Committed to

Benjamin Austin
Benjamin Weld
James Savage
Joseph Adams
Alexander Townsend Esqrs.

who are authorized to print the whole or any part of said report they may think proper, and distribute the same for the information of the inhabitants, four days previous to the 4th. June next.

The Committee appointed by the Town to take into consideration the petition of David Greenough and others before the Legislature for a new Market, and also instructed to consider the expediency of enlarging the Market and the mode of effecting

that Object have attended to the Duty assigned them and with due respect for the character & enterprize of the petitioners ask leave to report.

That in the year 1633 a grant of a fair or Market was made to the Town of Boston — and that independently of this grant it is a right [**163**] of the Town to hold the present Market called Faneuil Hall Market in virtue of long continued usage undisturbed by the erection of any other Market place in its vicinity. Your Committee are decided in their opinion that it would be highly inexpedient to consent to the establishment of a Market near to or (like the one proposed by the petitioners) in contact with Faneuil Hall Market as it would not only endanger the government, regulation and control thereof, but would essentially injure the rights and property of the town, by competition and interference and a diminution of the rents & income of the Town which might be exposed to a total loss and that this effect might and probably would be produced without any corresponding benefit to the inhabitants in the reduction of the prices of provisions.

That the public convenience does not require the erection of the proposed market, as the Boylston market is far from being crowded, and alterations may be made in Faneuil Hall Market which will render it, as convenient as the inhabitants can reasonably expect in the present state of the town, and will besides effect many important alterations in the streets which are near the Market place.

The Committee are therefore unanimously of opinion that the selectmen should be requested to oppose the petition of David Greenough Esq. and others now before the legislature for a new Market — this part of the report was accepted [**164**] and, Voted, Unanimously, That the petition of David Greenough Esq^{r}. & Others to erect a new Market in the vicinity of the old Market near Faneuil Hall would if granted operate injuriously to the rights and interest of the town, and that the Selectmen be requested to use their influence to prevent the same being granted by the legislature.

The remainder of the Report was ordered to be printed and distributed for the information of the Inhabitants.

The application of a number of the Inhabitants for the establishment of Schools for the instruction of children under seven years of age, was read, and Committed to

Redford Webster	Samuel May
Thomas L. Winthrop	John D. Williams
Elisha Ticknor	James Savage
James Prince	Benjamin West &

Thomas Jackson Esq^{r}.

to consider and report thereoñ at the Adjournment.

Adjourned to Thursday the 4th day of June next 10 O'clock A.M.

[**165.**] Thursday June 4th 1818
The Town met according to adjournment.

The Moderator being absent
Benjamin Weld Esqr. was chosen Moderator. Pro. Tem.

The Committee appointed by the Town of Boston on the 9th. day of March last "To audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer & Collector" with directions also to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year, Respectfully Report, that they have so far attended the services assign'd them, by examining the Town Treasurer & Collectors Accounts of receipts and payments for the year past, and find them right cast and well vouched, and that there results a balance in the hands of Andrew Sigourney Esqr. the Treasurer, of Twenty one thousand, five hundred and fifty four dollars and eighty three cents belonging to the Town, this Account which is handed herewith, includes all the drafts made on the Treasurer by the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and the board of health, who are authorized by the Town to appropriate the Town's money for the several purposes within their respective departments, the particulars of which will appear by the statements which are annually made to the Town by the standing Committee of Finance, to which report your Committee also refer the Town for amount of the Sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year — All which is respectfully submitted by order of the Committee of Auditors. Boston May 18, 1818 Stephen Codman
Chairman.

[**166.**] The Committee to whom was submitted on the 25th. ult. the report of the Committee of Finance made the following report

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee of Finance having complied with the request of the Town in "printing and distributing the same for the information of the Citizens," have also taken into consideration the mode to be adopted in *future*, previous to granting the Annual Taxes — which will be submitted to the Town at the adjournment on Thursday next.

It is requested there may be a full meeting to consider the Subject as it is of the highest importance, that while the Citizens are so prompt in the payment of taxes, a more particular detail of such expences should in future be exhibited, in order that they may obtain the fullest information on their money concerns, before they assemble in Town Meeting to grant the supplies
Benjamin Austin
Chairman.

Sixth annual Report of the Committee of Finance of the Town of Boston

The Committee of finance of the Town of Boston consisting of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of health, having attended to the duty assign'd them by the Town, have examined the books of the Treasurer and collector, and are [**167**] satisfied with the diligence and attention of that officer and with the *accuracy* of his accounts. They present the following Report.

The Amount of Warrants for taxes in 1817 given to the Treasurer and Collector, were for State Tax $22,000.00

Town & County tax 141,643.40

$163,643.40

Amount received by the Treasurer from October 1, 1817 to May 18. 1818	$153,669.00
Amount of abatements	6,943.60
Balance remaining uncollected	3,030.80
	$163,643.40

From which it appears, that the whole tax has been paid or settled in less than eight months, excepting about $3000 dollars, from which the Treasurer estimates nearly 1000 may be collected; your committee cannot refrain from expressing their opinion that this promptness is honorable to the Treasurer and to the Inhabitants; and is an evidence of well arrang'd financial concerns.

The following is a statement of the Towns Debts and Credits.

Town of Boston	Dr.
On State Tax	$10,000.
County of Suffolk	8,000
Notes due to several Persons	21,500
Selectmen of Boston for Mrs. Brooker's Donation, a fund, the Interest of which is paid annually to Widows & Sick Persons	1230.
Balances unpaid on Selectmen & Overseers Accts.	223.44
Unliquidated Accounts	5,046.56
	46,000.00

[**168.**]

Town of Boston	Cr.
By Several Notes for land &c.	3,739.73
Due for State Poor	7,000.
Taxes uncollected estimated to produce	1,000.
Cash in Treasury	21,554.83
Balance	12,705.44
	46,000.00

The balance of the Account current last year was	38,601.87
The above Statement shows it to be at present	12,705.44
And exhibits the Sum paid this year of the old debt	25,396.43

A calculation was made in the last years report to pay off 14,000 dollars, of the old debt, this has not only been realized but a much larger sum has been paid.

The demands on the Town as before stated		$46,000
Add thereto for current expences of the year as follows:		
For Selectmen's department	70,000.	
For Overseers of the Poor	30,000.	
For Board of Health	7,000	
		107,000.
Amount of State Tax		22,000.
Amount of County Tax		22,000.
Interest on Outstanding debts		2,700.
Exhibits the Amount to be paid this year		= $199,700.00

To be Provided for as follows.

From Money in the Treasury		21,554.83
From Notes becoming due		3,739.73
From Commonwealth for Poor		7,000.00
Rents of Town House &c		15,000.00
Taxes receivable outstanding		1,000.00
Amount assessed for State Tax	$22,000.	
Amount assessed for County Tax	22,000.	
Amount assessed for Town Tax	107,405.44	= 151,405.44
		$199,700,00
[169.] Bro[t]. forward		$199,700.00
Addition for probable abatement		10,000.00
		$209,700.00

The Committee recommend that the Town should vote a Tax of 107,405 Dollars and 10,000 in addition, to meet the abatements, this Amount will defray the current expences of the year and pay off the balance of the towns debt.

Respectfully submitted by order of the
Committee of Finance.
Turner Phillips
Chairman.

The foregoing report was read and accepted by the Town — and

Voted That the sum of One hundred and seventeen thousand four hundred and five Dollars, be raised by a Tax to be assessed upon the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the expences of the Town the present year.

Upon the representation and exhibition of the doings and proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esq. Treasurer and Collector of Taxes of the Town of Boston the last year.

Voted That the Town of Boston highly approve of the conduct of said Andrew Sigourney Esq. in the said Offices of Treasurer & Collector and that he has faithfully and fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said offices to which he has been appointed as aforesaid and that he be excused from all delinquency [**170**] or default in not having effected the full and complete settlement of the Taxes by him to have been received or collected according to law.

Voted That the Treasurer be authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding Seventy thousand Dollars if the same should be found necessary for the Service of the Town.

The proposition of the Committee of which the Hon. Benjamin Austin was chairman were committed to

Mess. H. G. Otis — James Prince
James T. Austin — S. A. Wells
S. Swett

to consider and report at a future meeting.

Voted That the report of the Committee of which the Hon. John Wells is Chairman subside for the present and the communication of David Greenough Esq^{r}. & others committed to

Mess. H. G. Otis — J. Wells
J. Prince — B. Austin
J. Savage — B. Weld
R. Webster Esq^{rs}.

Voted there be allowed and paid unto the Hon. Thomas Dawes the sum of Seven hundred and fifty Dollars as his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court for this present year.

[**171.**] Voted That there be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk, the sum of One thousand Dollars as his Salary for the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of the Town of Boston the Sum of One thousand Dollars to each of the permanent Assessors of the Town of Boston for the present year.

Voted That the consideration of the Salary of Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}. be deferred to the Adjournment.

Adjourned to Thursday June 11th

Thursday June 11th 1818 —
The Town met agreeable to adjournment.

The Moderator pro-Tempore, inform'd the Inhabitants that the Town Clerk was unable to attend at this meeting, being confined at his house by sickness, whereupon it was moved and voted to choose a Clerk pro. tempore a nomination being called for, and the question taken, Turner Phillips was declared to be chosen.

The following report of the Committee of which Redford Webster Esq^{r}. was Chairman was then read.

The Committee appointed at the Town Meeting on the 25th. ultimo to consider the subject of the petition of a number of the inhabitants for the establishment by the Town, of schools for children under Seven years of [**172**] age, having attentively considered it, ask leave respectfully to Report

That in their opinion the opening of such schools for children under the age of seven years is highly expedient and necessary; that several hundred children of that age do not attend any school, because the charity schools are in most instances provided only for female children being under the inspection of ladies, their founders, and the private schools are so expensive, that many parents find it difficult to defray that expense; that the examination of the circumstances of the several parts of the Town in this respect made last July, presented a return by which it is found, that two hundred and eighty three children between the age of four & seven years did not attend any school, but from enquiry of some of the Gentlemen who made the return, the committee are satisfied, that many children of that age were omitted, their parents or guardians being unwilling to acknowledge that they were sent to no school; that the Committee with greater confidence recommend the the adoption of such a course, because most of the towns in this Commonwealth provide Schools for Children of four years old equally with others, and [**173**] particularly is this adhered to in the large Towns of Salem, Newbury Port and Portland; that the best mode of providing such schools seems to them to be by the guidance and direction of three Gentlemen from each Ward, of sufficient activity, firmness, discretion and energy, to be nominated by the School Committee; Wherefore they conclude by submitting the following resolutions to introduce the proposed experiment.

Voted That the School Committee be instructed in the month of June annually to nominate and appoint three Gentlemen in each ward, whose duty collectively, shall be to provide instruc-

tion for children between four & seven years of age, and apportion the expences among the several schools.

Voted, that five thousand dollars be appropriated out of the Town Treasury for the purpose in the foregoing vote expressed, to be paid by the Treasurer on warrants drawn on him in the same manner as warrants are for the expences of the other Town Schools

By Order of the Committee
Redford Webster

June 3rd 1818.

[**174.**] The foregoing report of the Committee to consider the petition of a number of the inhabitants for the establishment by the town, of schools for children under seven years of age was accepted and five thousand dollars added to the estimate of the expenses of the ensuing year to carry the same into effect.

Voted That the Committee who have under consideration the propositions made to the town by the Committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee of finance be requested to report at the adjournment.

The consideration of the report of the Committee to whom was referred the proposals of David Greenough & others was postponed to the adjournment.

Adjourned to Thursday 25th. inst.

[**175.**] Thursday June 25th 1818.

The Town met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom was referred the proposals of David Greenough & others of the 4th inst. made a report, which was read & considered, & the subject referred to the next March meeting.

The printed report of the Committee on subject of the Market was indefinitely postponed.

The Committee to whom was referred sundry Motions referred by a former Committee for the consideration of the Town, beg leave to report the same as taken into a new draft as follows.

Voted, That the annual report and estimate of the Committee of finance on the subject of Taxes and supplies for the current year shall in future be printed under the direction of the Selectmen and distributed by the Constables among the Inhabitants

four days at least previously to the meeting of the Town to act upon those subjects; and that said report be accompanied by statements of the receipts and expenditures of the Town for the past year as far as the same can be ascertained, distinguishing as nearly as may be the expenses incurred for paving, laying out and improving the streets, for compensations made to individuals, for land taken for public uses; for the purchase of oil and lighting the lamps; for the pay of Watchmen, salaries for police & Municipal Officers, For [**176**] Public Schools and salaries to the preceptors & assistants, For Printing and Stationery; for the improvement and repairs of the Common. Also — a statement of the receipts arising from the Franklin, Boylston and other donations and their appropriations, from licenses to hackney coachmen and others, from the market house, stalls and public buildings, from fines and forfeitures paid into the Treasury of the Town, and generally of all other receipts and expenditures, so as to afford a clear & succinct view of the same. Also a statement of the real estate and other property belonging to the Town, with the respective rents and incomes thereof.

Voted, That a Committee of three persons be appointed by the Town at their annual meeting to examine the report of receipts and expenditures made by the Committee of Finance, in order to ascertain whether any savings or retrenchments may be made in the public expences.

Voted That the Selectmen be requested to use all the means in their power to obtain from the Court of Sessions from time to time, the estimates for County Taxes, intended to be applied for to the Legislature before the making of any such application and that such estimates together with the sums which from year to year may be assessed upon the inhabitants for the Towns proportion of county taxes be [**177**] also printed and distributed with the report of the Committee of Finance.

H. G. Otis
Chairman per Order.

The foregoing Report was read & accepted.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid to Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}. Three thousand five hundred Dollars, in full for his services as Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes, for Clerk hire and all other expences in the delivery of tax bills and collection of Taxes.

John Bray Esq. was chosen a Fireward in place of Bryant P. Tilden Esq^{r}. resigned.

Joseph Cabot was chosen a Hogreeve & Hayward.

[**178.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Saturday, the 4th. day of July A.D. 1818, 10 o'clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the meeting read.

Thomas Clark was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an oration on the Anniversary of Independence; Reported: That they had chosen Francis C. Gray, Esqr. who had accepted the appointment.

Adjourned to meet at the Old South Church at 12 o'clock, M.

Met at the Old South Church where an oration was delivered by Francis C. Gray Esqr. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted: that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Francis C. Gray Esqr. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him, at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners, and principles, which produced the great national event, and the important and happy effects general and domestic which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch, and to request of him a copy for the press.

[**179.**] Voted: that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 5th. day of July, 1819 (the 4th. day of July in that year falling on a Sunday) The 5th. will be celebrated as the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America: wherein the orator is to consider the feelings, manners and principles which led to this great national event, as well as the important and happy effects, which have already, or will forever flow from that Auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**180.**] At a convention of the boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and board of Health of the Town of Boston, held in Faneuil Hall on Monday the 13th. day of July A.D. 1818 4½ O'Clock P.M.

Present a Majority of each Board
viz. Mess. Phillips, Oliver, Lovering, Austin, Dorr & Farnam, of the Selectmen.

Mess. Perkins, Webster, Snelling, Mackay, Coolidge Jr. Richards & Walley of the Board of Overseers — and

Messrs. Badger, Otis, Weld, Hitchborn, Davis, Kilham & Fitch of the Board of Health.

Voted to proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Oliver & Perkins were appointed a committee to receive, sort & count the votes.

Votes being taken for a Town Treasurer Andrew Sigourney Esqr. was declared to be unamimously chosen.

Voted, to come to the choice of one Collector of Taxes for the ensuing year.

Votes being taken Andrew Sigourney Esqr. was chosen unanimously.

Mr. Sigourney having been notified of his appointment to the above offices, declared his acceptance and proposed Hon. Jonathan Hunnewell and Benjamin Weld Esqr. as his Bondsmen.

Voted that the above named Gentlemen [**181**] be accepted as Mr. Sigourney's Bondsmen, and that they execute a Bond of Twenty thousand Dollars as Treasurer and another Bond for the same sum as Collector of Taxes.

Messrs. Oliver, Mackay & Badger, were appointed a Committee to see that the Bonds are given by the Treasurer and Collector of Taxes, and that he is qualified according to Law.

Then the Convention was Dissolved.

[**182.**] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to vote for Representatives to the General Court of this Commonwealth; held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 2nd. day of November A.D. 1818, 10 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Palfrey.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

The Resolve of the General Court for choosing one Representative in Congress of the United States for the District of Suffolk—read.

The Chairman of the Selectmen requested the Inhabitants to bring in their Votes for a Representative to Congress for the Suffolk District & informed them that the Poll would be closed at half past One O'Clock.

Persons Voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States viz.

Hon.	Jonathan Mason—	641	Sam[l]. Hammond	—	2
"	Andrew Ritchie —	385	Caleb Hayward	—	1
	Daniel Webster —	4	James Lloyd	—	1
	James T. Austin—	2	Eben[r]. Clough	—	1
	Joseph Ruggles —	1	Moses Williams	—	2
	Sam[l]. A. Wells —	1	Daniel Dunton	—	1
	Paul Dean —	1	Alexander H. Everett—		1

[183] and declaration thereof was made in open Town Meeting.

A return of the doings of this meeting was made out conformably to the directions of the General Court and delivered to the Secretary of the Commonwealth by the Town Clerk.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

1819.

[184.] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 8[th]. day of March A.D. 1819 10 O Clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev[d]. M[r]. Greenwood.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting read.

Law respecting the Election of Town Officers read.

Benjamin Russell Esq[r]. was chosen Moderator.

Thomas Clark was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing; The Oath of Office was administered to him by the Moderator.

Voted to choose 9 Selectmen, poll to close at 12 Oclock.

Voted That Nathan Webb, Oliver Johonnot, Alden Bradford, Jacob Stearns & William Sturgis be a Committee to assist the Moderator & Town Clerk in sorting & counting the Votes for Selectmen.

Turner Phillips	Joseph Austin
Ebenezer Oliver	Henry Bass
Jonathan Hunnewell	Samuel Dorr
Joseph Lovering	Enoch Silsby and

Lemuel Shaw Esquires

were chosen Selectmen for the ensuing year.

[185.] The oath of Office was administered to Turner Phillips, Joseph Lovering, Joseph Austin, Henry Bass, Samuel Dorr & Enoch Silsby Esq[r]. by the Moderator.

Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to Henry Farnham Esq[r]. for his faithful services as one of the Selectmen the years past.

Hon. William Phillips Esq[r].	Joseph Richards
Redford Webster	Jonathan Phillips
Thomas Perkins	Samuel May
Samuel Snelling	Jacob Hall
William Mackay	Edward Tuckerman &
Joseph Coolidge Jr.	Sam[l]. H. Walley Esq[rs].

were chosen Overseers of the Poor and of the Workhouse for the year ensuing.

Voted That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a *School Committee* and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chosen viz.

Doct. Aaron Dexter	Peter O. Thatcher
Doct. Thomas Welch	Francis J. Oliver
Rev. Charles Lowell	William Wells
Rev. Joshua Huntington	Benjamin Russell
Rev. Nath[l]. L. Frothingham	Henry J. Oliver &
[186.] Charles Davis	Benjamin West Esq[rs].

Voted That the above named Gentlemen who conjointly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the System of education adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also authorized and empowered conjointly to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools; and to exercise all the powers relative to the Schools and School Masters which the Selectmen or Such committees are authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth or by the votes of the Town to exercise. —

Voted That the thanks of the Town be given to the Rev. Horace Holley for his faithful services as one of the School Committee for several years past.

Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to Doct. John C. Warren for his faithful services as one of the School Committee for several years past.

[187.] Thomas Melvill	Benjamin Rich
John Winslow	Joseph Lovering
Stephen Codman	Gedney King
John Bray	Francis J. Oliver
Daniel Messinger	John D. Williams

Joshua Davis	William Harris
Benjamin Smith	Jonathan Loring
Nathaniel Curtis	John Mackay
James Phillips	Turner Phillips
Nathan Webb	Lemuel Shaw
Samuel M. Thayer	Benjamin Russell &
Joseph Austin	Thomas Jackson Esquires,

were Chosen Firewards for the year ensuing.

Voted That the thanks of the Town be given to Andrew Cunningham Esq^{r}. for his faithful services as a Fire Ward for many years past.

[**188.**] Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Hon^{l}. Jonathan Hunnewell Esq^{r}. for his faithful services as a Fire Ward for many years past.

Votes were received for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk, by the Moderator & Town Clerk; on counting the Votes it appeared that there was one hundred and forty five, all for John Winslow Esq^{r}.

Mess. Benjamin White	William Ellison
William Clouston	Nathaniel Glover
Nathaniel Bradlee	John Howe Jr.
Noah Daggett	Richard Thayer
Braddock Loring	Edward J. Robbins
Thomas Christie	Henry Blake
William Green	Joseph Tucker
Eleazer Homer	Moses Eyers Jr.
Joseph Stodder	Benjamin Harris &
Allen Bowker	Oliver Mills

were chosen Surveyors of Boards and other Lumber.

[**189.**] Voted to choose Six firewards (in addition to the number chosen this day) at the Meeting in May next.

Adjourned to Monday next 15th inst 10 Oclock A.M.

Monday March 15th 1819.
Met according to Adjournment.

Mess. Henry Purkitt	Benjamin Clark
Benjamin Owen	James Brown and
Nathaniel Howe	Charles Pook

were Chosen Cullers of Hoops and Staves.

Mess^{rs}. Benjamin Clark	John F. Bannister
Nathaniel Howe	Thomas Lewis
Clarles Pook	William Spear
Benjamin Owen	Jacob Barstow and
James Brown	Ebenezer Berry

were Chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

Messrs. Benjamin White [190] John Howe Jr.
Nathaniel Bradlee Romanus Emerson &
William Ellison Abel Hewins,
were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Mess. Joseph Champney Neddy Curtis and
Joseph Cabot James Baxter
were chosen Hogreeves & Haywards for the year ensuing

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esqrs. were Chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

Josiah Snelling and
Thomas Howe Esqrs. were Chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

Messrs. John Wells and
Nathaniel Alley
were Chosen Assay Masters.

Mess. Michael Homer
Francis James and
Samuel Sprague were chosen inspectors of Lime.

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of the High Way.

Voted that Stephen Codman
Francis J. Oliver and
Robert G. Shaw Esqrs.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer [191] and said Committee are directed to report the Sum necessary to be raised for the service of the present year.

Voted That the consideration of all money matters be referred to the May Meeting

James Prince
Nathaniel Goddard and
Isaac Winslow Esqrs.
were appointed a Committee to examine the Report of receipts and expenditures made by the Committee of finance in order to ascertain whether any savings or retrenchments may be made in the public expences, agreeable to a Vote of the Town of the 25th June last.

A Communication from the Board of Health on the Subject of the Burial Ground at South Boston was read. On Motion

Voted to refer the same to a Committee consisting of one person from each ward; The Committee to report at the May Meeting

The following Gentlemen were chosen on the Committee viz.

William Harris		Sam[l]. A. Wells
Jacob Rhodes	[192]	Thomas Dean
Nathan Webb		Benjamin Russell
Josiah Marshall		Lewis Tappan
Oliver Johonnot		Winslow Lewis and
Thomas Howe		Barzilla Holmes Esq[r].

Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator for his Services at this Meeting.

Then this Meeting was Dissolved.

[**193.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of Twenty one years of Age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally warned and assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5[th] day of April A.D. 1819 — 9 OClock A.M.

Prayer by the Rev[d]. M[r]. Frothingham.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the Choice of Governor Lieutenant Governor & Senators, read.

Law of the Commonwealth dividing the State into Districts for the choice of Councillors and Senators — read

On Motion Voted That the Poll be closed at 2 Oclock — The Bells to commence toling at half past One.

Persons voted for as Governor, with the number of Votes for each person, viz.

His Excell[y]. John Brooks - - - - - - - - -	3641
Hon. Benjamin W. Crowninshield - - - - -	1724
" William Eustis - - - - - - - - - -	5
" John Adams - - - - - - - - - - -	2
" Timothy Pickering - - - - - - - - -	1
George Reed - - - - - - - - - - -	1
	5374

Persons voted for as Lieut. Governor with the Number of Votes for each person. viz.

[194.] His Honor William Phillips - - - - - - - - 3626
Hon[l]. Benjamin Austin - - - - - - - - - 1720
" James Lloyd - - - - - - - - - - 2
" John Phillips - - - - - - - - - - 1
" B. W. Crowninshield - - - - - - - - 1
James Prince - - - - - - - - - - 1
William Eustis - - - - - - - - - 1
Eben[r]. Clough - - - - - - - - - 1
William Dehon - - - - - - - - - 1
Moses Ballou - - - - - - - - - 1
John Chandler - - - - - - - - - 1
William Gray - - - - - - - - - 1
Peter O. Thatcher - - - - - - - - 1
Levi Lincoln - - - - - - - - - 1
Samuel A. Wells - - - - - - - - 1
Jacob Bender - - - - - - - - - 1
Nath[l]. Silsby - - - - - - - - - 1

Persons voted for as Councillors and Senators, for the District of Suffolk, with the Number of Votes for each person — viz —

Hon. John Phillips - - - - - - - - - - 3620
" Josiah Quincy - - - - - - - - - 3349
" Jonathan Hunnewell - - - - - - - 3583
" Artemas Ward - - - - - - - - - 3580
" Andrew Ritchie - - - - - - - - - 3582
Benjamin Gorham Esq. - - - - - - - 3542
Hon. Henry Dearborn - - - - - - - - 1738
" William Gray - - - - - - - - - 1775
" Samuel Brown - - - - - - - - - 1762
Col. Thomas Badger - - - - - - - - 1723
[195.] Doct[r]. William Ingalls - - - - - - - - 1738
James T. Austin Esq[r]. - - - - - - 1761
Joseph Tilden - - - - - - - - - 14
William Sullivan - - - - - - - - 10
Benjamin Russell - - - - - - - - 8
William Sturgis - - - - - - - - - 5

Nathaniel Goddard - -	4	James Lloyd - - - -	4
Lemuel Shaw - - - -	4	Isaac Winslow - - -	4
Sam[l]. G. Perkins - - -	3	Augustus Peabody - -	3
Henry Orne - - - -	3	Daniel Webster - - -	3
Israel Thorndike - - -	3	Joseph Head - - - -	2
Richard Sullivan - - -	2	Thos. H. Perkins - - -	7
Charles Callender - - -	2	William Little - - - -	2
David W. Child - - -	2	William Lawrence - -	2
Benjamin Austin - - -	6	Joel Prouty - - - -	2
John Roulstone - - -	2	George Wells - - - -	2
John Wells - - - - -	3	Jonathan Amory - - -	2

George Hallet	2	Benj^{n}. Ward	1
Daniel Sargent	1	Samuel Dexter	1
Jeremiah Fitch	1	George Blake	1
H. G. Otis	1	Caleb Loring	1
David Greenough	1	John Webly	1
Henry Lee	1	John Lee	1
John N Howe	1	Charles T. Austin	1
John Lepean	1	Benj^{n}. Jarvis	1
Issac Davis	1	Stephen Codman	1
Edward Cruft	1	H. H. Tuckerman	1
Zebedee Cook	1	Jos. B. Bradlee	1
Nath^{l}. P. Hunt	1	Tristram Barnard	1
Horace Draper	1	William Parsons	1
David Melcher	1	Moses Randall	1
[**196.**] Daniel Adams	1	Levi Haskell	1
Joshua Clapp	1	Samuel A. Wells	1
Thomas K. Jones	1	John Osborn	1
Peter C. Brooks	1	Benj^{n}. Rich	1
Joseph Coolidge Jr.	1	Benj^{n}. Whitman	1
Jonathan Whitney	1	John Dyer	1
David Thatcher	1	David Sears	1
Oliver Johonnot	1	Amos Binney	1
Oliver Train	1	John Fitch	1
Henry S. Low	1	John Kuhn	1
Henry Williams	1	William Eustis	1
Harvey Hartshorn	1	Theo. Bainbridge	1
Tim^{o}. M. Clapp	1	Joseph Jenkins	1
Josiah Bradlee	1	John C. Hicks	1
James Prince	1	Abraham H. Quincy	1

Attested Copies of return of Persons Voted for as Governor, Lieut. Governor Councillors & Senators for the District of Suffolk, were sealed up in open Town Meeting (after the Vote had been declared) to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as prescribed by law and directed as follows viz.

To Alden Bradford Esq^{r}. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Votes of the Town of Boston for Governor and Lieut. Governor, sealed up in open Town Meeting.

Also for Six Councillors & Senators for the District of Suffolk directed in the same manner.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**197.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes held at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 13th day of May A.D. 1819. 10 OClock A.M.

Prayer by Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Pierpont.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Paragraphs of the Constitution relative to the Choice of Representatives read; also a law of the Commonwealth relating to the qualifications of voters, on taking the question of number of representatives to be elected, was read.

By a Return from the Assessors it appeared that there were eleven thousand one hundred and ninety seven rateable Polls within the Town, which number authorized the Election of Fifty Representatives.

A Motion was made and seconded, that the Town should elect Forty five representatives for the year ensuing which (after an animated debate) passed in the affirmative.

The Chairman of the Selectmen requested the Inhabitants to withdraw & bring in their votes, for Representatives not exceeding forty five, & informed them that the Poll would be closed at half past 2 Oclock.

[198.] The votes were received, sorted and counted by the Selectmen; when it appeared that the whole number of votes given in was 2799; necessary to make a choice 1400. The following Forty five Gentlemen had the number of Votes set against their respective names and were declared to be elected Representatives for the year ensuing. viz.

Mess. William Sullivan	1888	Mess. James Perkins	1888
Benjamin Russell	1875	[199] Bryant P. Tilden	1885
Benjamin Whitman	1882	Nathan Hall	1887
Israel Thorndike	1855	Thomas Motley	1887
Charles Davis	1888	Samuel Dorr	1888
Joseph Coolidge Jr	1889	Joseph Lovering	1887
Daniel Messenger	1887	Augustus Peabody	1885
Jonathan Whitney	1887	John Knapp	1878
Barzilla Holmes	1888	Joseph Sewall	1887
Peter O Thatcher	1882	George W. Otis	1886
William Sturgis	1885	Henry Purkitt	1886
Josiah Marshall	1888	Phineas Upham	1873
John French	1886	Jonathan Phillips	1887
Jonathan Loring	1887	Samuel Appleton	1885
Joseph W. Revere	1888	Thomas Jackson	1885
Benjamin Smith	1885	Edmund Winchester	1886
Benjamin Rand	1885	Heman Lincoln	1887
Francis Bassett	1886	Francis Welch	1882
John Cotter	1848	Thomas Parsons	1873
Enoch Silsby	1888	Joseph Austin	1887
Peter C. Brooks	1887	Elijah Morse	1876
George Bond	1884	William Jackson	1879
		Benjamin Watson	1876

The following gentlemen had the Number of Votes set against their names. viz. —

Mess. John Brazier	879	Mess. Winslow Lewis	881
Joseph W. Howe	882	Samuel A. Wells	879
Edmund Wright	881	George Hallet	882
William B. Bradford	880	Charles Hood	881
Samuel Billings	883	David Henshaw	879
Joseph Stodder	878	James Lloyd	25
[200.] Thaddeus Page	881		
William Mackay	7	Nath[l]. Curtis	3
J. C. Merrill	3	William Gray	2
Samuel Brown	2	James T. Austin	2
Eben[r]. Clough	2	Jeremiah Fitch	2
Benjamin Austin	2		

and Elijah Withington, Henry Orne, Nathaniel Wright, Jon[o] D. Howard Jr. James H. Foster, James Ellison, Sam[l]. Whitwell, Samuel Swett, John Tyler, William Eustis, H. Dearborn, P. P. F. Degrand, The[o]. Bainbridge, Israel Munroe, Zack. G. Whitman, James Russell, John Fox, Perez Bryant, John Hathaway, Henry H. Tuckerman, Thomas Brewer, James Davis, H. S. Waldo, Thomas Badger, Tho[s]. K. Thomas, Harvey Bates, Samuel Adams, Thomas Rowe, S. Gardner, Jonathan Emery Jr. Francis C. Gray, Joseph Lewis, Isaac Stevens, A. Young, Job Drew, Dan[l]. Wise, Tho[s]. Sawyer, one each. Declaration of the State of the Votes being made,

The Meeting was Dissolved.

[201.] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 31[st]. day of May A.D. 1819 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

Stephen Codman Esq[r]. was chosen
— Moderator. —

The Committee appointed by a Vote of the Town on the 8[th] day of March last, "to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, and to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year" have attended that service and make the following Report.

That they have very particularly and minutely examined the Town Treasurers Accounts for all the Monies received and paid by him during the past year, that they find them right cast, and well vouched and there appears a balance due to the Town, in the hands of the Treasurer of \$43973.$\frac{69}{100}$ dollars as p[r]. the Account herewith submitted up to the 10[th] day of May instant.

The Committee refer the Town to the Report and estimates of the Standing committee of finance for the sum necessary to be

raised for the services of the ensuing year which estimate meets the concurrence and approbation of this Committee.

[**202.**] The Committee embrace the present occasion to bear their testimony to the unexampled diligence and successful exertions of Andrew Sigourney Esq^r. the present Treasurer & collector in collecting so large a proportion of the Taxes assessed the last year as well as of the back taxes which were due before his entrance into office by which means the Town has saved a very considerable Sum, which but for his extraordinary exertions and abilities would have been lost.

Respectfully Submitted

Stephen Codman
Francis J. Oliver } Committee.

Boston May 11^th. 1819.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted May 1819.

Seventh Annual report of the Committee of Finance of the Town of Boston.

The Committee of Finance of the Town of Boston consisting of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and the Board of Health, have attended to the Duty assigned to them by the Town, have examined the Books of the Treasurer and Collector and are satisfied with the accuracy of his Accounts, They present the following Report

[**203.**] The Amount of Taxes assessed in 1818 given to the Collector & Treasurer — were

for State Tax - - - - - - - - - -	$21,965 33
" Town & County Tax - - - - -	150,623 97
	$172,589 30

Amount received by the Treasurer from October 8, 1818 to May 8^th 1819 - - - - - - - - - -	162,512 59
Amount of Abatements - - - - - - - -	5,350 27
Balance remaining uncollected - - - - -	4,726 44
	$172,589 30

From which it appears that the whole Tax has been paid or settled in seven Months, excepting about 5,000 Dollars, from which the treasurer estimates nearly 1500 dollars may be collected; your Committee are again compelled to express their opinion that this promptness is honorable to the Treasurer and to the Inhabitants.

By the Town Treasurer's account it appears that there is a balance of Forty three thousand, nine hundred and seventy three

Dollars, 69 Cents in the Treasury, Statement as follows, The Account is on file.

Town of Boston ——— Dr.

1819. May	Due on State Tax of 1818 - - - -	10,000	00
	" County of Suffolk - - - -	8,000	00
	" Note Due to E. B. - - - -	6,000	00
	" Selectmen of Boston for Mrs. Brackers & other Donations -	1,230	00
	" Boylston Donation appropriated for Building School Houses -	8,691	33
	" On Selectmen & Overseers Drafts	3,717	43
	Unliquidated Accounts - - -	14,000	00
	Balance in favor of the Town -	14,273	18
		$65,911	94

[204.] Town of Boston ——— Cr.

1819. May	By W. N. Boylstons Bond - - - -	15,000	00
	" J. Tidd Jr's Notes - - - - -	1,890	00
	" John Hancocks - - - - - -	930	00
	" Rea & Wrights - - - - - -	700	00
	" Joseph Rowe - - - - - -	535	50
	" Uriah Cottings - - - - -	516	00
	" William Tukesbury - - - -	371	55
	" William Witmore - - - - -	235	00
	" Abraham Moore - - - - -	124	00
	" Jabez Hunting - - - - -	90	00
	" Isaac Rand Jr - - - - - -	46	20
	" Uncollected Taxes - - - -	1,500	00
	" Cash in the Treasury - - -	43,973	69
		$65,911	94

The balance of the Account current last year was against the Town - - - - - - - - - -	12,705	44
The above Statement shows it to be at present in favor of the Town - - - - - - - - - -	14,273	18
The Demands on the Town being as before stated - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	51,638	76
Add thereto for current expenses of the year as follows		
For Selectmens Department - - - -	79,000	00
" Overseers of the Poor - - - - -	30,000	00
" Board of Health - - - - - - -	7,000	00

For Committee for providing schools for Children under 7 years of age - -	8,000 00
" Amount of State Tax - - - - -	22,000 00
" D°. of County of Suffolk - - -	16,000 00
	$213,638 76

[**205.**] To be provided for as follows

From Money in the Treasury - - - -	$43,973 69
" Notes payable this year - - - -	3,180 00
" Rents of Market, Town House &c.	16,000 00
" Taxes Receivable outstanding - -	1,500 00
" Amount State Tax assessed - -	22,000 00
" Ditto of County D°. D°. - - -	16,000 00
" Ditto of Town D°. D°. - - -	110,985 07
	$213,638 76

The Committee recommend that the Town should vote a tax of 111,000 Dollars which will defray the current expenses of the year.

Respectfully Submitted
By Order of the Committee of Finance
Turner Phillips, Chairman.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted by the Town, and

Voted That the Sum of One hundred & eleven thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax to be assessed upon the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the expenses of the town the present year.

William Dall — Thomas Dawes
Joshua Davis — Barzillai Holmes, and
Peter O. Thatcher — [**206**] George Bond Esq[rs].
were chosen Trustees of Neck Lands.

Bryant P. Tilden — Geo. W. Otis
Winslow Lewis — John Howe
Amos Binney — Joseph Jones
Enoch Silsby — William Howe
Isaac Harris — Jonathan Whitney &
Jeremiah Fitch Esq[rs].
were chosen Fire Wards, agreeably to a vote of the Town in March last, to increase the number of Fire Wards & to supply vacancies occasioned by the resignation of five Gentlemen who were Chosen at that Meeting.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to John Winslow, Benjamin Rich, Gedney King, Francis J. Oliver & William Harris Esq^rs. for their faithful services as Fire Wards for many years past.

Rev'd John Pierpont was chosen one of the School Committee, in place of Benj^n. [**207**] West Esq^r who has declined serving on that Committee.

Oliver Greary was chosen a Hogreeve and Hayward.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Health for the Town of Boston, detailing the plan of a Burial ground which they propose to locate on the land now owned by the Town at South Boston, and which they intend to call the "Boston Cemetery" have attended to the duty Assigned them, & beg leave respectfully to report.

That on an examination of the Aforesaid report they find, that the principal subjects of it are not under the control of the Town, but the execution of which are delegated solely to that Board. By a law of this Commonwealth the Board of Health is fully invested with the requisite authority to carry their propos'd plan into operation, so far as it is practicable upon the land owned by the Town at South Boston, and appropriated for the interment of the dead: But that Board conceive that the land so appropriated is not of sufficient extent to admit of all the improvements and advantages, which are set forth in their report, they consequently thereon recommend the expediency of purchasing an additional extent [**208**] of seventy thousand square feet of ground, adjoining that now owned by the Town.

This being the only branch of the report on which the Town has the power to act, the Committee have confined themselves to the consideration of the expediency of purchasing the land designated by the board of Health for the purposes specified in their report.

After a view of the premises, and a mature consideration of all the circumstances connected with the subject, the Committee were of opinion that the local position of the ground is not well chosen for the contemplated object; that its distance from the Center of the old Town is so great, that the burial of the dead would be attended with augmented inconveniences, and an increase of expense to the inhabitants generally, but more particularly to those of the northern sections of it; that during the inclement seasons of the year, it would at times be utterly impracticable to proceed to that situation for the intended purposes; which in the opinion of the Committee, are insuperable objections against the situation of that site as a place for the interment of the dead from the Town of Boston.

They therefore were unanimously of opinion that it is inexpedient for the town to purchase the additional number of square feet of [**209**] ground recommended by the board of Health for the purposes stated in their report on this subject.

But the Committee having been informed by the President of the Board of Health that if the Town refused to purchase the land as recommended, that agreeably to the power with which the Board are by law invested, it is their intention to carry their plan into effect upon the ground owned by the Town at South Boston and located for a Burial Ground, by which procedure the inhabitants will be subjected to all the inconveniences that have already been stated.

To obviate, therefore, the difficulties and disadvantages previously enumerated by having the burial Ground at so great a distance from the Center of the old Town, and in order that the plan of this Board of Health may be executed upon a field of sufficiently large [area] to secure all its proposed advantages, & as the Committee considered the expense of the land to be of no comparative consequence to that which the Board of Health intend to expend in its execution; they deem it their duty for these reasons to recommend to the Town the expediency of purchasing three & an half acres of Land at South Boston for the purpose of locating a new Cemetery for the Town upon the plan stated [**210**] in the aforesaid report of the Board of Health, Provided it can be procured for that purpose within one fourth of a mile of the eastern extremity of South Boston Bridge, so called: and they further recommend, should the Town accept this part of their report, the appointment of a Committee to purchase said land for the Town on the best possible terms.

Benj^{n}. Russell p^{r}. Order.

Boston May 31. 1819.

The foregoing Report was read, and so far accepted as that it was voted, That,

Thomas Badger
Samuel A. Wells and
Henry Bass Esquires,

be a Committee, to ascertain at what rate (per acre) land can be purchased for, suitable for a Burial Ground at South Boston, and report at the Adjournment of this meeting.

A Communication from the Justices of the Court of Sessions, on the subject of erecting a new Prison, was read.

Whereupon it was Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to Co-operate with the Court in that undertaking. —

[**211.**] The following Report was read, accepted, ordered to be printed, and distributed for the information of the Inhabitants.

Report,

Pursuant to a vote of the Town on the 11th day of June last, the School Committee soon after nominated and appointed three Gentlemen in each ward "To provide instruction for children between four and seven years of age, and apportion the expenses among the several Schools."— Of these gentlemen all but two accepted and have served. — The Board was organized on the 23d day of June by choosing Thomas L. Winthrop Esq., Chairman, and James Savage Esq. Secretary.—

On the 2d. day of July the board resolved, that the Committee of each ward " ascertain by personal inquiry, the number of Children between the ages of four & seven, state who do and who do not attend any school, as also those, whose parents are desirous of availing themselves of this right, and report the names and place of residence."—This was a very arduous duty, and the result of the inquiry was highly interesting to the board.

The number between four and seven years old, exclusive of about half of Ward N°. 7. from which the Committee made no return, amounted to two thousand eight hundred & forty three.— Of these, though five hundred and thirty two only did not attend any school, thirteen hundred and thirty were desirous of instruction at the new schools.—The number who attended no school was nearly double that of the return made the preceding year, but not larger than was expected to be found.— a comparison of the result, in each year, from all the Wards will assist us in judging of their correctness. —

[212.]

Wards	*1817*	*1818*
N°. 1	57	46
2	52	86
3	26	45
4	9	14
5	8	20
6	20	37
7	7	34
8	6	29
9	13	72
10	6	2
11	23	46
12	56	101
Total	283	532

To provide instruction for that number the grant of money by the town was very liberal, and was indeed considered by the favourers of the experiment adequate to furnish schooling for seven or eight hundred children. —

But when we ascertained, that above thirteen hundred would demand the care of the board, it became a matter of great diffi-

culty to divide the sum granted in such a way as to approach nearest to a fulfilment of the vote of the town, with which a perfect compliance seemed utterly impracticable. We could not satisfactorily arrange this difficulty before the 20th. of July.

As the pupils were of such tender age, they could not be required to go far from home; and schools must therefore be opened in sections of the Wards. — To insure health and improvement their number in each [**213**] school should be small; and to such an instructor as alone ought to be employed, the compensation could hardly fall short of two hundred dollars. — Rent, fuel, benches and other incidental charges might have reasonably been expected to exceed fifty dollars for each. But the Board were resolved to open twenty Schools, and we were of necessity stinted to that amount. — It was generally agreed by us, that the children in one school should not exceed forty five, and be confined if practicable, to forty. The money was divided by vote among the several Committees from the Wards, and schools were opened exclusively for such free scholars as the Committees received in every Ward but two. These two Wards were unitedly allowed from our fund enough to maintain two schools, or one tenth of the whole;—but it seemed expedient to the Committee of that united District to agree with mistresses, having already established schools, to receive from the Committee an addition of pupils at a stated rate for each. Five teachers have been by them employed in this manner. The rate of ten cents per week, with allowance of two dollars for winter's fuel, for each child, making seven dollars & twenty cents a year, is now found to be much higher than that which the instruction in other Wards demanded, where the expense of each pupil has fallen short of five dollars.

Most of the Schools were opened [**214**] in August, and all by the first week in September & all have continued without interruption. —

The calculations, even of such citizens as were most solicitous for the establishment of these schools, have all estimated too low the number of children for whom we find it necessary to provide instruction.—

Though a large portion, probably half of our people, would prefer to pay teachers of their own private selection for instructing their children of such an age, and though the never tiring benevolence of many has provided schools for several hundred others, yet in every instance the schools opened by the board have been filled beyond the limit we desired to prescribe. — We should however observe, that several of the instructors, having daughters of age to afford assistance to their mothers, the Committees have been satisfied with permitting sixty, and in one instance seventy, in another eighty pupils in one school. In only two of those eighteen schools provided solely for the free instruction has the number been smaller than fifty, and on the second week of March, when our instructors returned all under their tuition, the amount was eleven hundred and eighteen. —

Large as this number will appear, the board are satisfied, that a considerable addition should the current year be provided for; and from computation carefully made we conceive thirty two schools for such children will be needed.

[215.] At two hundred and fifty dollars each, a grant of eight thousand dollars would be requisite.

Two considerations, among several others more apparent, powerfully operate to produce, in the minds of the gentlemen of the board the year past, a conviction of the importance and necessity of this system of free schools for young children, which they wish to submit to the consideration of their fellow citizens. — The first is, that our schools have been constantly pressed to admit a number of children in every part of the town above seven years old, who, having been unable to acquire a little acquaintance with English reading or even the letters of our alphabet, are excluded from the public schools. This grievance we could not remedy; but if the new Schools for children of younger age be continued, the evil will in a great measure soon be removed. — The second is, that very many children, whose parents are able in summer to afford them schooling at nine pence or a shilling per week, are deprived, in winter, (when fire money is asked by the instructors which the parents cannot easily pay) of all teaching, and so lose at that season all their former acquisition in letters. — Three private schools in one Ward, where the mistresses had twelve scholars each, have been by this defect, reduced, one to nine & the other two to six pupils each. — But the children for whom we have been required to provide instruction have attended with remarkable punctuality, nor less in winter than in summer. —

[216.] The result of our experiment has certainly been encouraging, and we confidently state that the improvement in all our schools has been far superior to our expectations. We found many parents, on our first inquiry, indifferent about sending their children to these schools, though they regularly attended no other. Perhaps mistaking the establishment for a charitable one, their pride revolted from acknowledging that they needed assistance, yet since the operation has proceeded, they have almost invariably desired admission for them. Of the children received, one half in some parts of the town, and one third in general were ignorant of their letters, of whom many can now read in the New Testament, and several from each school are prepared for admission at the town grammar schools who must have been, we are confident, otherwise rejected.

In most of our schools the girls have been taught knitting or sewing as well as reading. The several Committees are by a regulation of the board required once a month at least to visit the schools under their particular care, and a return of the state of each is demanded at our quarterly meetings.

All which is submitted.

Elisha Ticknor, Benj. Austin, Tho. B. Wait, Nathan Webb, Tho. Baldwin, Henry Ware, J. Savage. —

[217.] Voted, That the School Committee be requested, to take into consideration the expediency of making any alteration in the Salaries of the Public School Masters, and report the result of their deliberations to the town at their next meeting.

Voted, That the Committee of Finance be requested to take into consideration and Report, the salary which ought to be allowed the Town Treasurer & Collector for the ensuing year.

Letters were read from James Prince & Isaac Winslow Esquires, by which it appeared, that the Committee chosen by the Town in March last "to examine the Report of receipts and expenditures made by the Committee of Finance in order to ascertain whether any savings or retrenchments may be made in the public expenses" — had declined the appointment. —

The article in the Warrant "to consider whether the town will increase the pay, which has been hitherto allowed to the Watchmen of the Town by the Selectmen." was taken up and after a short debate — it was Voted, That the Selectmen be directed to pay to each and every one of the men now employed, or who may be hereafter employed as Watchmen of the Town, the sum ef twenty-five cents a night in addition to what they now receive for their services. —

A motion was made to reconsider the vote — forty six voting in the affirmative & upwards of sixty in the negative; the motion was lost. —

Adjourned to Monday 21st June next — 10 o'clk A.M.

[218.] At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 14th day of June, A.D. 1819 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Benjamin Russell Esq.

was chosen Moderator.

This Meeting was called, "To consider whether the Town will adopt any measures relative to the Petition of David Greenough and others, now pending before the Hon. General Court for an act to incorporate them by the name of the Dock Square Corporation, and authorize them to erect buildings for any purpose which they may think expedient in the vicinity of Dock Square and the Market, which subject is to be acted on by the Hon. Legislature on Wednesday the 16th. instant."—

The Petition of David Greenough & others to the Legislature, with the order of notice thereon, from the Honble. General Court to the Town being read. — The subject was taken up, considered,

and after a short debate, the following votes were (nearly) unanimously passed by the Town. — viz.

Voted, That the Selectmen of the Town of Boston be, and they hereby are requested [**219**] to represent to the Legislature, that the Petition of David Greenough & Thomas Motley, is injurious to the general interest of the Town, and pray that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Voted, That the rights and interests of the Town would be injuriously affected by the erection of any new Market in the vicinity of the old Market near Faneuil Hall by any individual citizens and for their private benefit; and that the Selectmen be a Committee, to represent a suitable remonstrance to the Legislature of this Commonwealth against the Petition of Mess^{rs}. David Greenough and Thomas Motley, which is now pending before that Honorable Body; And in their remonstrance to pray, that in any act of incorporation, which may be granted to said Greenough & Motley upon their petition, or upon any other petition which may at any time hereafter be presented to them by said Greenough & Motley, or by any other persons on this subject, a restrictive clause may be inserted so as effectually to protect the rights and interests of the town from injury in this respect. —

Voted, That the Senators of the County of Suffolk, and the Representatives of this town in the General Court be requested, to oppose the grant of any [**220**] act of incorporation to Mess^{rs}. Greenough & Motley, which shall not contain a restriction upon them and their associates against erecting any new market in the vicinity of the old market near Faneuil Hall, or any other building, which may be contrary to law.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Benjamin Russell Esq. for his services as Moderator of this Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was
Dissolved.

[**221.**] Monday June 21st. 1819 .—

Met according to Adjournment from the 31st. ultimo.

Samuel Adams Wells Esq.
was chosen a Fire Ward, in place of John Howe Esq. who declined serving in that office.

M^{r}. Levi Sherman, was chosen a Hogreeve & Hayward for the year ensuing.

The following Report was made by the School Committee. — viz.—

The School Committee of the Town of Boston have attended to the subject, which was referred to them by the vote of the inhabitants on the 31st day of May, and respectfully Report.

That in the year 1816, the Salaries of the reading & writing Masters, which prior to that time had been eight hundred dollars per annum were raised to one thousand — And in consequence of the high price of the necessaries of life, a grant was made them of two hundred dollars which has been annually renewed to the present time.—

The Committee have had no reason [222] to suppose, that this was insufficient for their comfortable support, and they have the satisfaction to believe, that the Schools in general, are flourishing under the care of able & faithful teachers.—With respect to the Salary of the principal Master of the Latin grammar School, The Committee ask leave to observe, that it was fixed after much deliberation, and with a due regard to the qualifications, which the Master of that School ought to possess.— It was found impracticable without increasing the Salary, to induce a young gentleman of talents and scholarship, to forego the prospects which the learned professions opened to him, & to devote himself to the care of this School with the reputation of which his fame and his hopes in life should be identified.— The present Master having filled the office to the entire satisfaction of the public, the Committee are unanimously of opinion that, as he accepted the office after the Salary was raised, it ought not to be reduced, while he continues to merit their confidence and esteem. — In addition to the Latin & greek languages, the boys at the latin School are now taught such branches of the Mathematics & geography, with the Elements of Geometry & algebra, as are requisite for admission to Harvard College.— In consequence of the great [223] increase of the number of pupils, and of the particular alteration requisite in order to form them to habits of accuracy, in which all success in scholarship depends — and considering too, that the standard of qualifications for admission to the University has been much elevated, the Committee have thought it necessary, to add an Assistant master, to increase the number of Ushers, and to hold out inducements to them, to continue in the School for the term of three years at least, that the inconveniences arising from inexperienced Instructors might be avoided.— The Committee think they have reason to congratulate the town on the flourishing condition of this School, which they believe to be second to none in our Country, & they rely on the liberal spirit and enlightened views of the Inhabitants, who have ever been attentive to the education of the rising generation and

to the best interests of their Country, to continue to afford it their protection and support.

By order of the School Committee,
Turner Phillips, Chairman.

The foregoing report was read & accepted. —

The Committee appointed to ascertain the price of land for a Burial Ground at South Boston, made a Report, which was not accepted; — The subject was referred to the Selectmen and Board of Health, with full powers to make additions to the present Burial Grounds, if they should deem it necessary.

[224.] The Committee of Finance having been directed by a vote of the Town to take into consideration and report the Salary which shall be allowed the Town Treasurer & Collector for the ensuing year have attended the duty assigned them and Report. — That the Treasurer & Collector furnished the Committee with a statement of the expense of his office, amounting to $1160.82 on examining this statement some of the Committee were of opinion the sum charged for the Clerks Salary too high, as they doubted not 5 or 600 dollars would command the services of a person well qualified to discharge the duties of that office; in answer to this it was said, that in conversation with the Treasurer on this subject he had observed "if the Town would take the responsibility of the Clerks conduct he was perfectly willing they should procure one at the lowest rate, but if he was to be responsible for his Clerks fidelity it was incumbent on him to employ one in whom he could place the utmost confidence, and to such a person he must give more than a common Salary." — It appears on the records of the Committee of Finance from the first appointment of the Town Treasurer & Collector it was their desire and intention he should receive $2,000 p^{r}. annum for his services. — And the Committee were now unanimously of opinion that for [225] the able, diligent and faithful manner in which he has hitherto discharged the duties of his office, and which they doubt not he will continue to do, that he should receive that sum for the ensuing year, — they therefore recommend that the town should vote the sum of three thousand one hundred dollars in full for the Salary of the town Treasurer and Collector for the ensuing year, and for Clerk hire, expenses of office, and pay of his deputies — this sum at the Salaries he now pays will not produce $2,000 — but the Committee are of opinion a reduction may be made in the Salaries of his Clerk or deputies as will reduce the expense of his office to $1,900. — which is respectfully submitted,

By order of the Committee,
Turner Phillips, Chairman.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted — and Voted, That the sum of three thousand one hundred dollars, be allowed

& paid unto the Town Treasurer & Collector for the ensuing year, in full for his Salary, for Clerk hire, expenses of office & pay of his Deputies.

Upon the representation and exhibition of the doings and proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esq. Treasurer & Collector of taxes of the Town of Boston the last year.

Voted, That the Town of Boston highly [226] approve of the conduct of said Andrew Sigourney Esq. in the said offices of Treasurer and Collector, and that he has faithfully and fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said offices, to which he has been appointed as aforesaid, and that he be excused from all delinquency or default in not having effected the full and complete settlement of the taxes by him to have been received or collected according to law. —

Voted, That the Town Treasurer be authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding Seventy thousand dollars, if the same should be found necessary for the service of the town.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto the Hon. Thomas Dawes Esq. the sum of Seven hundred and fifty dollars for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk, the sum of One thousand dollars as his Salary the present year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of the town of Boston, the sum of one thousand dollars to each of the [227] permanent Assessors of the town for the present year.

A motion was made and seconded, That the vote of the Town passed the thirty first ultimo, increasing the pay of the Watchmen be reconsidered; — and that the subject be referred to the Selectmen to act on it as they shall think proper. — The question being put it passed in the affirmative. —

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be presented to Stephen Codman Esq, for his able and impartial discharge of the duties of Moderator of this Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was
Dissolved.

Attest, Tho' Clark, Town Clerk.

[**228.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5th. day of July A.D. 1819 — 10 O'clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting, read.

Thomas Clark, was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence Reported, That they had chosen Franklin Dexter Esq. — who had accepted the appointment. —

Adjourned to meet at the Old South Church at 12 O'Clock M.

Met according to Adjournment at the Old South Church, where an Oration was delivered by Franklin Dexter Esq. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Franklin Dexter Esq. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the town, upon the anniversary of American Independence;— wherein were considered the feelings, manners [**229**] and principles which produced the great national event, and the important and happy effects general & domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch;— and to request of him a copy for the press.

Voted, That the Gentlemen Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th. of July 1820 — That day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America;— wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners & principles which led to this great National event, as well as the important and happy effects which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**230.**] At a Convention of the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, held at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 7th. day of July A.D. 1819.—

Present a Majority of each Board, viz.—

Messrs. Phillips, Oliver, Lovering, Austin, Dorr & Shaw — Selectmen.

His Honor W. Phillips, Messrs. Webster, Snelling, Mackay, Coolidge, Richards, Hall & Walley, Overseers of the Poor.— and, Messrs. Whitman, Loring, Jackson, Otis, Kilham, Collamore, Fitch, Carver, Darricott, & Alley, of the Board of Health.

Voted, To proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer, for the year ensuing.—

Messrs. Lovering & Dorr, to receive sort and count the Votes.

Votes being received for Town Treasurer;—Andrew Sigourney Esq. was declared to be unanimously elected.—

[**231.**] It was then voted to come to the choice of a Collector of taxes for the year ensuing;— and the votes being collected it appeared that Andrew Sigourney Esq. was unanimously chosen.

Mr. Sigourney having been notified of his appointment to the above offices, declared his acceptance;— and proposed Hon. Jonathan Hunnewell & Benjamin Weld Esq. as his Bondsmen.—

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen be accepted as Mr. Sigourney's Bondsmen, and that they execute a Bond of twenty thousand Dollars, as Treasurer, and another Bond for twenty thousand dollars as Collector of taxes.

Voted, That Messrs. Shaw, Mackay & Jackson, be a Committee to examine the Bonds given by the Treasurer & Collector, see that they are correctly drawn and legally executed, and to report their doings to the Chairman of the Selectmen.

Then the Convention was Dissolved.

[**232.**] The following Report was received from the Committee appointed by the Convention on the 7th. instant. — viz.

The Committee appointed at a Meeting of the Convention on the 7th. instant to examine the Bonds offered by Andrew Sigourney Esq. as Treasurer & Collector of taxes for the town of Boston, Report,

That A. Sigourney Esq. has delivered to them two bonds each in the penalty of twenty thousand dollars ; one conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as Treasurer, the other as Collector, each executed by said Sigourney as Principal, and by Jonathan Hunnewell & Benjamin Weld Esq,'s as Sureties. The

said Bonds which are herewith transmitted, appear to your Committee to be correctly drawn and legally executed, and that the Sureties are those approved by the Convention. —

All which is respectfully submitted
By order of the Committee
Lemuel Shaw,
Chairman.

Boston July 26th. 1819 —

1820.

[**233.**] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 13th day of March A.D. 1820 10 °Clock A.M.

Prayer by Revd. Mr. Sharp.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting read.

Law respecting the Election of Town Officers read.

Hon : John Phillips Esqr. was Chosen Moderator.

Thomas Clark was chosen Town Clerk, for the Year ensuing, the Oath of Office was administered to him by the Hon : Moderator.

The Moderator directed the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their Votes for Nine Selectmen.

Voted, That the Poll shall be closed at 1 °Clock.

Voted, That William Little, Nathan Webb, Thomas Jackson, Thaddeus Page & Henry J. Oliver Esqrs. be a Committee to sort and count the Votes for Selectmen.

The Votes being sorted & counted it appeared that
Hon. Benjamin Austin
Daniel Baxter
Jonathan Loring
Benjamin T. Wells
Samuel Billings
Eliphalet Williams
George Brinley and
Jeremiah Fitch Esquire
were chosen Selectmen.

Adjourned to Monday next 10 °Clock A.M.

[**234.**] Met according to Adjournment.

Mess[rs]. Wells & Brinley chosen Selectmen, at the last Meeting, having declined accepting the appointment. The Inhabitants were directed by the Moderator to bring in their Votes for three Selectmen.

On Motion, Voted, That the Poll be closed at 2 °Clock.

On the close of the Poll it appeared that
Abram Babcock
Robert Fennelly and
Samuel A. Wells Esq[rs].
were chosen, to complete the board of Selectmen for the Year ensuing. —

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be presented to the Members of the former board of Selectmen, for their able, faithful & impartial Services, during Years past.

Adjourned to tomorrow Morning at ½ past 9 °Clock.

Met according to Adjournment. —

Hon. William Phillips	Redford Webster
Thomas Perkins	Samuel Snelling
William Mackay	Joseph Coolidge J[r].
Jonathan Phillips	Samuel May
Jacob Hall	Edward Tuckerman

Edward Phillips and Henry Bass Esq[rs].
were chosen Overseers of the Poor and of the Workhouse for the Year ensuing.

Voted. That the thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Richards & Samuel H. Walley Esq[rs]. for their faithful Services as Overseers of the Poor for several Years past.

[235.]

Thomas Melville	Stephen Codman
Daniel Messinger	Joshua Davis
Benjamin Smith	Nathaniel Curtis
James Phillips	Samuel M. Thayer
Joseph Lovering	John D. Williams
Jonathan Loring	John Mackay
Lemuel Shaw	Benjamin Russell
Bryant P. Tilden	Winslow Lewis
Thomas Jackson	Amos Binney
Enoch Silsby	Isaac Harris
George W. Otis	Joseph Jones
William Howe	Jonathan Whitney
Jeremiah Fitch	Samuel A. Wells
William Burrows	Samuel Hichborn Jun[r].
EdmundWinchester &	Jonathan Thaxter Esquires

were chosen Firewards for the Year ensuing.

Voted. That the Thanks of the Town be given to John Bray, Nathan Webb, Joseph Austin & Turner Phillips, Esq[rs]. for their faithful Services as Fire Wards for many Years past.

Doct[r]. Thomas Welsh — Henry J. Oliver Esq[r].
Doct[r]. Aaron Dexter — Rev: John Pierpont
Rev: Charles Lowell — Lemuel Shaw Esq[r]. and
William Wells Esq[r]. — Rev. Daniel Sharp,
were chosen on the School Committee. —

Voted. That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly [236] with the Selectmen, are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the System of education adopted by the Town into Operation: and that said Committee be also authorized and empowered, conjunctly to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools and Schoolmasters, which the Selectmen, or such Committees are authorized by the Laws of this Commonwealth or by the Votes of the Town to exercise. —

Votes. Were received for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk; which were sorted & counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk. — the Votes given in were for

Col. Thaddeus Page - -	873	Charles Newell - - - -	1
Benjamin Weld Esq[r]. - -	752	Washington Munroe - -	1
Charles Hammatt - - -	283	John Colton - - - - -	1
Turner Phillips Esq[r]. - -	93	James Savage - - - -	1
Nathan Webb Esq[r]. - -	32		
			2037

Adjourned to half past 3 °Clock. P. M.

Met According to Adjournment at ½ past 3 °Clock.

Mess[rs]. Benjamin White — William Clouston
Nathaniel Bradlee — Noah Doggett
Thomas Christie — Bradock Loring
William Green — Eleazer Homer
Joseph Stodder — Allen Bowker
William Ellison — Nathaniel Glover
John Howe Jun[r]. — Richard Thayer
[237.] Edward J. Robbins — Henry Blake
Joseph Tucker — Moses Eayres Jun[r].
Benjamin Harris and — Oliver Mills
were chosen Surveyors of Boards and Other Lumber. —

Mess[rs]. Henry Purkitt — Benjamin Owen
Nathaniel Howe — Benjamin Clark
James Brown and — Charles Pook
were chosen Cullers of Hoops and Staves.

Messrs. Benjamin Clark Nathaniel Howe
Charles Pook Benjamin Owen
James Brown John F. Bannister
William Spear, Jacob Barstow & Ebenr. Perry
were Chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

Messrs. Benjamin White Nathaniel Bradlee
Romanus Emerson Abel Hewins
Rolun Hartshorn and John Howe Junr.
were chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Cabot John Kimball
William Andrews and Royal Oliver
were chosen Hogreeves, Haywards & field drivers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Michael Homer, Francis James and Samuel Sprague were Chosen Inspectors of Lime.

Samuel Emmons and James Phillips Esqrs. were Chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

Thomas Howe and John Tuckerman Esq. were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

[238.] John Wells and Nathaniel Alley Esqrs. were Chosen Assay Masters.

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of Highway.

Voted, That Stephen Codman, Francis J. Oliver and Robert G. Shaw Esquires be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer; and said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present Year.

Voted, That the consideration of all Money Matters be referred to the May Meeting.—

James Prince, Isaac Winslow & Samuel May Esqrs. were appointed a Committee to examine the report of Receipts & expenditures made by the Committee of Finance, in Order to Ascertain whether any savings or retrenchments may be made in the public expences and Report at the May Meeting.

The Article in the Warrant "To consider the request of a number of the Inhabitants for permission to continue the Range of Tombs in the South Burial Ground, under the direction of the Board of Health" was taken up and committed to the Selectmen, to report thereon at the May Meeting. —

The Application of the Boston & Roxbury Mill Corporation, to be allowed further time to complete their Works, was also Committed to the Selectmen.

[**239.**] The Votes for four persons to complete the School Committee, were received sorted & Counted; when it appeared, the whole number was 1582. necessary to make a choice 792. The highest number of Votes given for any candidate was 754. There being no choice.— It was Moved & Voted, That the choice of four Gentlemen to complete the School Committee be referred to the May Meeting.—

The Article in the Warrant "To see if the Town will Lease to the Freemasons the Rooms over the First Storey in the Old State House for a long term of Years." was taken up and the Subject referred to the Selectmen to consider and report thereon at the May Meeting. —

Voted, Unanimously. That the Thanks of the Town be presented to the Hon: John Phillips Esq^{r}. for his able and impartial services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest Tho^{s}. Clark. Town Clerk.

[**240.**] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the third day of April. A.D. 1820. 9 oClock A.M.

Prayer by the Rev: Paul Dean.

Warrant for calling the Meeting and the return thereon read by the Chairman of the Selectmen.—

Thomas Clark Esq^{r}. Town Clerk being absent by reason of indisposition, Samuel F. M^{c}.Cleary Esq^{r}. was chosen Clerk pro tempore and the Oath of Office was administered to him in open Town Meeting, by Zebedee Cook J^{r}. Esq^{r}. a Justice of the peace for the County of Suffolk.

The Constitution and Laws were read respecting the election of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Councillors & Senators.

The Selectmen presiding, the Chairman requested the legal Voters to prepare & bring in their Votes for Governor, Lieutenant Governor & Six Senators for the County of Suffolk.

On Motion made and seconded, it was Voted. That the poll shall be closed at 2 oClock P.M.

Persons voted for as Governor, with the number of Votes for each person viz^{t}.

His Excellency	John Brooks	3521
Hon:	William Eustis	1682
	John Phillips	1
	Benjamin Parsons	1
	Daniel Adams	1
	Hosea Ballou	1
	Parson Channing	1
	Benjamin R. Grosman	1
		5209

[**241.**] Persons voted for for Lieut. Governor, with the number of Votes for each person viz^{t}.

His Honor	William Phillips	3489
Hon.	Benjamin Austin	1701
	William Eustis	1
	Levi Lincoln	1
	William Sullivan	1
	John H. Smith	1
	Elias Smith	1
	Joshua Sears	1
	Stephen Shelton	1
		5197

Persons Voted for as Councillors and Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each person viz^{t}.

Hon. John Phillips	5187
" Peter C. Brooks	5151
" John Welles	5112
" Jonathan Hunnewell	3304
" Benjamin Gorham	3387
William Sullivan Esq^{r}.	3398
Hon. William Gray	1818
Samuel A. Wells Esq^{r}.	1793
David Sears Esq^{r}.	1813
James T. Austin	59
Josiah Quincy	32

Henry Dearborn	8	Abram Babcock	1
Thomas Badger	3	Artemas Ward	2
Jacob Rhodes	1	Nathaniel Goddard	2
William Phillips	2	Henry Orne	8
William Ingalls	4	Isaac Winslow	2
Samuel P. Gardner	1	Joseph C. Smith	2
Thomas L. Winthrop	2	Josiah Salisbury	3
		Russell Sturgis	3

	Joseph Coolidge Jr.	1		Benjamin Hunnewell	1
	Samuel Brown	4		James Lloyd	2
	Isaac Dupee	1		Jeremiah Evarts	3
	Samuel Hubbard	5		Joseph Tilden	2
[242]	Amos Binney	1		Moses Wallack	1
	Jesse Putnam	3		David Townsend	1
	Lemuel Shaw	1		William Gale	1
	Peter O. Thacher	2		Samuel A. Walley	1
	James Prince	1		James Perkins	1
	George Blake	1		Charles Willis	1
	William P. Felton	1		Henry White	1
	Benjamin T. Wells	1		Benjamin Whitman	2
	John Minchin	1		Charles Davis	1
	Ebenezer Kick-shins	1		William Jennings	1
				Samuel Salisbury	1
				Ebenr. Clough	1

Attested Copies of return of Persons Voted for as Governor Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors & Senators for the District of Suffolk, were sealed up in Open Town Meeting, (after the Vote had been declared) to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as prescribed by Law, and directed as follows, vizt.

"To Alden Bradford Esqr. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Votes of the Town of Boston, for Governor & Lieutenant Governor, sealed up in Open Town Meeting."

"To Alden Bradford Esqr. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Votes of the Town of Boston, for Six Senators and Counsellors, for the District of Suffolk, sealed up in Open Town Meeting." —

The Meeting was then Dissolved.

Attest
S. F. McCleary Town Clerk pro tem.

[243.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one Years of age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 15th day of May A.D. 1820.
10 °Clock A.M.

Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Eaton.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting, read.

Paragraph of the Constitution relative, to the choice of Representatives, read. Also the Laws of the Commonwealth regulating Town Meetings and relating to the qualification of Voters, were read. —

A Communication from the Assessors was read, wherein it was stated that "they have not yet completed taking the Polls in all the Wards the present Year. — the whole number found the last Year was eleven thousand one hundred & ninety Seven, and so far as they have already progressed, they have no hesitation in saying, that the number will not be diminished the present Year. —"

Voted to proceed to the Choice of Fifteen persons to represent this Town in the General Court the present Year. —

Voted, That the Poll be closed at 2 °Clock P.M.

The Votes being collected, Sorted & Counted it appeared that the whole number given in was 2498

Necessary to make a choice - - - - - - - - - 1250 the following Gentlemen had the number of Votes set against their respective names and were declared to be duly elected.

Representatives for the Year ensuing — viz^{t}.

[**244.**]

Josiah Quincy	1482	Benjamin Russell -	1500	
Warren Dutton	1551	William Tudor - -	1549	
Lemuel Shaw	2446	William Sturgis -	1555	
Samuel Hubbard	2460	Joseph Coolidge J^{r}.	1556	
Heman Lincoln	2464	Edmund Winchester	2445	
Nathan Hale	1570	George Bond - -	1522	
Joseph Austin	1542	Francis C. Gray -	1567	and

Theodore Lyman J^{r}. 2377 —

The following Gentlemen, had the number of Votes set against their respective Names. — viz^{t}.

Benjamin Whitman - - -	938	Josiah Salisbury - - -	953
James T Austin	936	David Sears - - - - -	931
John Brazer - -	897	Jeremiah Evarts - - -	953
Thaddeus Page -	913	James Loring - - - -	950
John P. Boyd -	902	Samuel A. Wells - - -	923
S. E. Dwight -	3	D. Messinger - - - -	3
Theodore Lyman	2	Henry Dearborn - - -	2
J. Lovering - -	1	L. Packard J^{r}. - - - -	1
George Hallett -	1	Benj. Rich - - - - -	1
Js. Thorndike -	1	Sam^{l}. L. Knapp - - -	2
W^{m}. R. Gray -	1	Jos. Hall J^{r}. - - - - -	1
Thomas Badger -	5	Jon^{a}. Whitney - - - -	1
Joseph Eustis -	1	B. P. Tilden - - - - -	4
		Thomas Baldwin - - -	2

	G. King	1	T. K. Jones		1
	Jon[a]. Simonds	1	T. L. Winthrop		4
	J. N. Howe	1	D. Hale J[r].		1
	David Mosely	2	Jos. Coolidge		1
	Fitch Tufts	1	William Gray		8
	Mat. M. Hunt	1	Henry Orne		8
	Sam[l]. Dorr	4	James Savage		2
	Issac Stevens	1	R. B. Callender		1
	J. C. Rainsford	1	W[m]. Ingalls		1
	F. Welsh	4	Josiah Vose		1
	E. Ticknor	1	David W. Bradlee		1
	Henry Rice	1	Dan[l]. Wild		1
	John Fox	1	Otis Everett		1
	James Prince	1	Sam[l]. F. Armstrong		4
	John Campbell	1	W[m]. Minot		1
	D. W. Child	2			
[245]	H. Purkitt	4	W[m]. Little		4
	L. Tappan	1	J. C. Ballard		1
	Ch[s]. Tappan	1	Alfred Curtis		1
	Joel Thayer	1	George Odiorne		4
	Joseph West	1	G. W. Otis		1
	Arnold Welles	2	Dean Willis		1
	D. Baxter	4	Geo. Frothingham		1
	Jacob Hall	1	Fra James		1
	Sam[l]. Hitchborn	1	D. Vinal		1
	Henry H. Fuller	1	W[m]. Gale		2
	Jacob Rhodes	3	S. H. Walley		2
	W[m]. B. Bradford	1	John Lovering		1
	H. G. Otis	2	Elijah Morse		1
	Joshua Child	1	Thomas Wigglesworth		1
	Alex Bliss	1	Thomas Jackson		1
	Caleb Adams	1	Ja[s]. Carter		1
	Timothy Williams	1	James S. Lovell		1
	Aaron Hill	2	Archibald M[c]Neill		1
	John Dorr	1	Elias Smith		1
	Jos. Grafton	2	Tho. Melville		1
	John D. Dyer	1	Jos. Foster		1
	John Brown	1	James Phillips		1
	John Cotton	2	Asa Whitney		1
	Elisha Ticknor	2	Barz Holmes		1
	T. Vose	1	Phineas Upham		1
	Eben Frothingham	1	Edmund Wright J[r].		1
	Sam[l]. Whitwell	4	Ja[s]. Adams		1
	Fred[k]. Cabot	1	Peter C. Brooks		1
	Sam[l]. Brown	4	T. Goddard		1
	R. G. Shaw	5	Turner Phillips		1
	Jon[a]. Loring	1	Sam[l]. Appleton		1
	S. Parkman J[r].	1	Jon[a]. Phillips		1
			Eben[r]. Francis		1
			Josiah Whitney		1

	Franklin Dexter	1	David Hale	1
	Jesse Putnam	2	James Smith	1
	Ephm. Marsh	2	Danl. Dunton	1
	Geo. Burroughs	1	Henry Emmons	1
	Jos. Tilden	2	Wm. Wells	1
	Nathl. Curtis	1	Jona. L. Austin	1
	S. Snelling	1	Redford Webster	1
	David Stanwood	1	Tho. Hunting	1
	J. Kilham	1	Wm. Jackson	6
	R. D. Tucker	1	Chs. Davis	1
	Theo Bainbridge	1	Isaac Winslow	1
	Thos. Sawyer	1	David Henshaw	1
	John G. Rodgers	1	J. C. Ransford	1
	James Sabine	1	Jos. Woodward	1
	Benja. West	1	Ensign Lincoln	1
[246]	H. Homes	1	Benj. Rich	2
	B. Rand	1	Moses Grant	1
	S. Bean	1	R. Faxon	1
	Amos Fitch	1	Fredk. Weld	3
	David C. Mosely	2	Jos. Grafton	1
	Martin Brimmer	1	E. Jones	2
	Saml. Billings	2	T. Motley	1
	Jona. Loring	1	Jerh. Fitch	1
	J. Dorr	1	H. G. Otis Junr.	2
	Gidney King	1	John Cotton	1
	D. Webster	1	F. Bassett	1
	A. Peabody	1	John Clark	1
	John Fitch	1	J. Phillips	1

Declaration of the State of the Votes being made, The Meeting was Dissolved

Attest
Tho' Clark, Town Clerk.

At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston, liable to be taxed, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 29th. day of May A.D. 1820 — 9 °Clock A.M.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting — read.

Stephen Codman Esqr. was chosen Moderator.

William Dall Joshua Davis
Thomas Dawes Peter O. Thacher
Barzillai Homes and George Bond Esqrs. were chosen Trustees of Neck Lands.

George Darracott Esqr. was chosen a Fireward.

[247.] Francis J. Oliver Esq^r^. Rev. Nath^l^. L. Frothingham
Benjamin Russell and John G. Coffin Esq^rs^.
were chosen to supply the vacancies in the School Committee.

Thomas Hammond, was chosen Pound Keeper at South Boston.

Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to cause a Pound to be built on G Street South Boston.

Thomas Hammond Jeremiah Cotting and
Simon J. Stoddard
were appointed Hogreeves, Haywards & Field Drivers for the Year ensuing.

Joseph Cabot John Kimball
Joseph Harris and William Andrews
were chosen Field Drivers for the Year ensuing.

The Petition of a number of the inhabitants "That a new School House may be erected at the Westerly part of the Town" was referred to the School Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the Application of John T. Apthorp & Benjamin Gorham Esq^rs^. in Behalf of the Boston & Roxbury Mill Corporation have attended the duty assigned them & ask leave to Report.

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Boston on the 11^th^. day of June 1813. — on the Petition of Isaac P. Davis and others for liberty to build a Mill Dam & Turnpike Road from the bottom of Beacon Street and for other Mill Improvements. — it was Voted, to refer the same to a Committee, consisting of the [248] Board of Selectmen & one Gentleman from each Ward in the Town, to consider the subject and report at a future Meeting. —

The Committee thus appointed reported in favor of the request of the petitioners on certain conditions expressed in their report, allowing them five years from the first day of January 1815 — to complete their Work — Provided however, that in case said Corporation shall fail to perform either of the above conditions within the time aforesaid then the grant from the Town of Boston shall be wholly Void, and the land and flats shall revert to the town. — Your Committee are well aware that the Work is not completed, and that the property then conditionally conveyed has reverted to the Town.

Your Committee have confined themselves principally to the consideration of the interests of the town, and as they are satisfied the delay in the completion of this Work was not the fault of the corporation, but the effect of circumstances, beyond their

control, they recommend that an extension of time be allowed the Proprietors of the Boston & Roxbury Mill Corporation, under all the conditions, limitations & restrictions originally prescribed, of Two Years from the first day [of] January 1820. —

submitted by Eliphalet Williams,
by order of the Committee.

The foregoing Report was Read & Accepted. — And — Voted, That the Proprietors of the Boston and Roxbury Mill Corporation be allowed two years from the first day of January 1820 — to complete their Works, agreeably to the Report. —

[**249.**] The Committee to whom was referred the Application of Joseph Balch and Others to continue the range of Tombs in the South Burying Ground — have attended that service and ask leave to Report. —

That by a Law of this Commonwealth passed 20th. June 1816 — The Board of Health of the Town of Boston are fully authorized & empowered from time to time to make and establish, such rules orders and regulations, for the interment of the Dead in said Town, — to establish the Police of the burying grounds, appoint and locate the places for the deposit of the dead in said town, and to cause the burying grounds to be repaired and properly enclosed. —

Your Committee are therefore unanimously of opinion that the application of the petitioners ought to be referred to the Board of Health who only are empowered to act in the premises.

Submitted by Eliphalet Williams,
Chairman of the Committee.

The above Report was read and Accepted. —

The Committee appointed to consider the application of Daniel Baxter and Others "To see if the Town will Lease to the Freemasons the rooms over the first Story in the Old State House." made a report against the petitioners which was not accepted; the subject after a lengthy debate was indefinitely postponed.

The Article in the Warrant relating to the Claim of Messrs. David Hinckley & Luther Ellis was taken up, and after a short debate, the subject was dismissed. —

[**250.**] The Application of Lemuel Packard Junr. & Others "to take into consideration the expediency of uniting the Offices and duties of the County & Town Treasurers, was read and referred to the Committee of Finance, to consider the Subject and report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting. —

It was Voted, to fill the Vacancy at the Board of Selectmen; and the adjournment of this Meeting was assigned as the time for this purpose. —

The Subscribers having been appointed a Committee by a Vote of the Town on the 21st day of March 1820. — "to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, with directions to report the sum necessary to be raised, for the services of the present Year. — Report that they have so far attended that service as to examine the Treasurer's Accounts for all Monies received and paid by him from the 10th day of May 1819 to the 22nd day of May 1820. — with all the Vouchers. — That they find the same correctly stated, well vouched & right cast: by which it appears that there remains a balance due to the Town, in the hands of the Treasurer of Forty five thousand, one hundred and Seventy dollars & $\frac{76}{100}$ up to the said 22d day of May instant. —

With regard to the remaining part of the duty assigned them by their Commission, vizt. to Report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year, the Committee would observe, that since the establishment of a Standing Committee of finance, who are composed of the members of the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Health for the time being, that Service has been performed by them, and therefore this Committee [**251**] beg leave to refer the town, to their Report on this subject, which they presume will be made at this Meeting. —

Your Committee take this Occasion to congratulate the Town on the pleasing situation of their Monied concerns. it appears by the Treasurer's Accounts, that the Town is now entirely free of debt, and that a handsome sum remains in the Treasury. — This very happy state must be attributed to the liberality & punctuality of the citizens in promptly discharging the duties they owe each Other, by their readiness to pay their taxes, as well as to the good arrangements of the Treasurer & Collector, in the discharge of his duty.

All which is respectfully submitted

Step Codman
Francis J. Oliver } Committee.
Robt. G. Shaw

The foregoing Report was read and Accepted.

The Report of the Committee of Finance was Ordered to be printed.

Adjourned to Thursday the 8th day June next at 10 °Clock A.M.

[**252.**] Thursday June 8th. Met according to adjournment.

Eighth Annual Report
of the Committee of Finance.

The Committee of Finance consisting of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health, have attended to the duty assigned them by the Town, and present the following report.

That they have carefully examined the Books and Accounts of the Treasurer & Collector, which they found to be clearly and accurately kept and adjusted; that they have examined the Books & Accounts of the Board of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health for receipts and expenditures in their several departments, all of which they found accurately adjusted; and have examined generally into the monied concerns of the Town, and present the following Statements as the result of their investigations. —

N°. 1.

The Amount of Taxes Assessed in 1819 was as follows viz^{t}.

State Tax - - - - - - -	22,061.33
Town & County Tax - - -	147,797.77
	$169,859.10

Amount received by the Treasurer, on Account of said Taxes - - - - -	156,293.90
Amount of Abatement of Taxes agreeably to certificates of the Assessors -	8,073.20
Balance Uncollected - - - - - - -	5,492.—
	169,859.10

[**253.**] Amount received by the Treasurer on Account of Uncollected Taxes of preceding Years and outstanding at last settlement

1813 & 1814 - - - - -	43.40
1815 - - - - - - - - -	111.—
1816 - - - - - - - - -	190.30
1817 - - - - - - - - -	349.80
1818 - - - - - - - - -	2,661. 3
1819 - - - - - - - - -	156,293.90
	$159,649.43

whole Amount received for Taxes by the Treasurer from May 1819 to May 1820 - - - - - - - - - - $159,649.43.—

N°. 2.

The Town of Boston in Account with A. Sigourney Treas^{r}. - D^{r}.

1819			
May 10	To amount due the Commonwealth on Tax of 1818 - - - - - - -	10,000.	
	To Amount due County of Suffolk on d°.— -	8,000	

	d° on Selectmens & Overseers drafts - - -	3,717.43	
1820			
Jan^{y}. 10.	To Cash paid Boston Bank for my Note as Treasurer, dated Oct^{r}. 1. 1819 - - - - -	10,000.—	
Feb^{y}. 29	To ditto Massachusetts Bank for d°. dated Aug^{t} - - - - - - -	10,000.—	
			41,717.43
April 10.	To ditto Elizabeth Bradlee for d°. dated Dec^{r}. 10. 1818 - - - - -	6,000.—	
28	To ditto Commonwealth Tax for 1819 - - -	22,061.33	
"	To ditto County of Suffolk d°. - - - - -	15,871.—	
"	To ditto Interest on Sundry Notes - - - -	1,023.80	
"	To John Stuarts Note -	125.—	
"	" J & A Huntings d°. -	40.—	
			45,121 13
	Amount of the Board of Healths drafts from June 11th to Dec^{r}. 27th. 1819 inclusive - - - -	9,000.—	
	Amount of the Overseers drafts from June 2nd. 1819 to May 3rd. 1820, inclusive - - - -	32,518.76	
	Amount of Selectmens drafts from May 31st. 1819 to May 3. 1820 inclusive -	94,967.92	
	Carried over - - - -	$136,486.68	86,838.56
[254.]	Amount brought forward,	136,486.68	86,838.56
	Amount of d°. for Boylston Town Schools from 31st. May 1819 to Nov^{r}. 29th. inclusive,	1.397.89	137,884.57
	Counterfeit Bills received for Taxes - - - - - - - - -	11.—	
1820			
May 22.	Balance due the Town to New Account - - -	45,170.76	45,181.76
			$269,904.89

The Town of Boston in ℅ with A Sigourney Treasurer. Cr.

1819				
May 10.	By Balance due the Town Tr ℅ of this date, rendered - - - - - - - -			43,973.69
29	By Cash of Jabez Hunting for his Note - -		90.—	
June 1	By dº. of Jacob Tidd Jr. for dº. - - - - -		378.—	
July 2	By dº. of Wm. Tukesbury in part of dº. - - -		354.—	
July 24	By dº. of Rea & Wright in part of dº. - - -		100.—	
24.	By Cash of A Moore in part of his Note - -		39.2	
29.	By dº. of the State Treasurer for the maintainance of State Paupers to June 1 - - - -		8,088.24	
				9,049.26
Augt. 30.	By dº. of Massachusetts Bank for my Note as Treasurer - - - -		10,000.—	
Sept. 11.	By dº. of Wm. Wetmore in part of his Note -		100.—	
27	By dº. of Wm. Wetmore in full of his Note - -		135.—	
Octr. 2.	By dº. of Boston Bank for my Note as Treasurer,		10,000.—	
				20,235.—
1820				
Jany. 7.	By dº. of Uriah Cotting balance of Bond - -		516.—	
" 15.	By dº. of Abraham Moore in part of his Note -		14.90	
Mar. 14	By dº. of State Treasurer for Maintainance of State Paupers to Decr. 1,		8,495.86	
	By dº. of Ralph Haskins by Lemuel Shaw Esqr. for paving Tremont and Court Streets - - -		13.68	
April 26.	By dº. of Ward N. Boylston in part of his Bond,		5,000.—	
29	By dº. of Rea & Wright,		100.—	
May 18	By dº. of Abraham Moore balance of his Note -		70.8	
				14,210 52

20	By d°. for Licenses to Auctioneers - - - -	124.—	
	By d°. for d°. to Hackney Carriages - - - -	74.—	
	By d°. for breaches of Laws - - - - - -	79.33	
	By d°. of the Fire Wards their proportion of the fines received for breach of Gunpowder Laws -	62.8	
May 20.	By Cash of Militia Exempts - - - - -	258.—	
	By Balance due on Selectmens & Overseers drafts - - - - - -	226.24	
		823.65	87,468.47
	1820		
[255.]	May 20. By Amount Brought Forward - -	823.65	87,468.47
May 20.	By Cash rec^{d}. for Interest on Bonds & Notes	3483.2	4,306.67
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Rent of Lands on Neck - - -	186.20	
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Rent on Prince & Merrimack Streets . - - - -	31.—	
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Hay Scales - - - - -	297.47	
	By Cash rec^{d}. for House in Union Street - - -	48.—	
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Stalls & on Market - - -	9694.74	
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Stalls & Cellars under Faneuil Hall - - - - - -	4002.50	
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Shops & Offices in Old State House - - - - -	4220.41	18,480.32
	By Cash rec^{d}. for Taxes of 1813, 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818 & 1819 - - - - - - - - - -		159,649.43
			$269,904.89

Boston 22 May 1820.
Errors Excepted
Andrew Sigourney—Town Treasurer

N°. 3.

Statements of the Debts & Credits of the Town of Boston May 1820.

Town of Boston		D^r.
To Selectmen of Boston	1230.—	
" Overseers Drafts	187.45	
" Selectmens d°.	38.79	
" Boylston Town Schools	7738.10	
" Unliquidated Accounts	5182.67	
		14377.01
Balance in favor of the Town		53.000
		67377.01

Town of Boston	C^r.	
By Ward N. Boylston Bond	10,000	
" Jacob Tidd Jun^r.	1512	
" John Hancock	930	
" Joseph Rowe	535.50	
" Rea & Wright	500.—	
" John Stuart	125.—	
" Isaac Rand	46.20	
" J. & A. Hunting	40.	
Carried Forward	13688.70	
[256.] By Amount Brought Forward	13688.70	
By William Tewksbury	17.55	
By Commonwealth of Massachusetts	7000.—	
By Uncollected Taxes	1500.—	
By Cash in the Treasury	45170.76	
		67,377.01

Boston May 22, 1820.
Errors Excepted
Andrew Sigourney Town Treasurer.

D^r. Boylston Town Schools in ℔ with the Town of Boston. C^r.

1819		1819	
June 1 To Cash pr. Sundry bills	923.14	May 10, By Balance due as p^r. account of this date	8691.33
July To Cash	7617	Int^t. on do. 1 year	521.47
Aug^t. " do	250.63		
Nov^r " do	54.—		
Dec^r " do	93.95		
	1397.89		
Interest on the above sums	76.81		
	1474.70		
1820			
May 22 To balance to New Acc^t.	7738.10		
	9212.80		9212.80

N°. 4.

Statement exhibiting the Amount of Debts now due from the Town of Boston; the Amount which will Accrue for Expenditures the Year ensuing, the Amount to be received from the various sources of revenue enumerated, and the amount to be Assessed upon the Inhabitants to meet and pay the balance.—

Amount now due Tr. Statement N° 3		14377.1	
d°.	required by the Board of Selectmen - - - - -	56445.—	
d°.	required by the School Committee - - - - -	28000.	
d°.	required by the Board of Overseers of the Poor -	30000.	
d°.	required by the Board of Health - - - - - -	9000.	
d°.	required by the Primary School - - - - - -	8000.	
d°.	required for State Tax - -	22061.33	
d°.	" " County Tax -	20000.—	
d°.	Probable expence of a New School House - - - -	10000.—	
			$197,883.34

[257.]

Amount of Balance in the Treasury - -		45,170.76
Rents of Market, Town House &c - -		16,000.—
Outstanding taxes estimated - - - -		1500.—
		62,670.76
Balance to be raised as follows: —		
Amount assessed by State for State Tax - - -	22,061.33	
Amount assessed by State for County Tax - - -	20,000.—	
Amount assessed by Town for Town Tax . . .	93,151.25	
		135,212.58
		$197,883.34

The Committee therefore recommend that a Tax of One hundred & four thousand Dollars, be levied to pay the Current expenses of the Year, which amount includes a sum of ten thousand Dollars as a provision to meet the probable Amount of abatements of taxes.—

Submitted by order of the Committee of Finance.

Eliphalet Williams, Chairman.

Selectmens Room May 24, 1820.—

The foregoing Report was Read and Accepted. — And Voted. That the sum of One hundred & four thousand dollars be raised by a tax, to be Assessed upon the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the expenses of the Town the present Year. —

Upon the representation & exhibition of the doings & proceedings of Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}. Treasurer & Collector of taxes of the Town of Boston the last year.

Voted. That the Town of Boston approve of the conduct of said Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}. in the said offices of Treasurer and Collector, and that he has faithfully & fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said Offices, to which he has been appointed as aforesaid, and that he be excused from all delinquency or default in not having effected the full and complete settlement of the taxes, by him to have been received or collected according to Law. —

[258.] Voted. That the Town Treasurer, be authorized to borrow with the approbation of the Committee of Finance, a Sum not exceeding Seventy Thousand Dollars: if the same should be found necessary for the service of the Town.

Voted. That the sum of eight thousand dollars appropriated for primary Schools, be augmented to Eight thousand five hundred the present Year. —

The Selectmen in conformity to a Law of this Commonwealth, laid before the Town a list of persons they had Selected to serve as Grand and Traverse Jurors at the Courts of this State, and at the United States Courts. — The Report of the Selectmen was considered, and it was Voted, That the Town confirm their doings. —

David W. Child Esq^{r}. was chosen to fill the vacancy at the Board of Selectmen, occasioned by the death of Hon Benjamin Austin.

A Report from the Committee of Primary Schools was read and referred to the School Committee, to consider & report thereon at the adjournment of this Meeting.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of uniting the offices of Town & County Treasurers, requested further time to report on that subject, which was granted.

Voted, That there be allowed & paid unto Hon. Thomas Dawes, the sum of Seven hundred & fifty dollars for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the present Year. —

[**259.**] Voted that there be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk, the sum of one thousand dollars as his salary the present Year.

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto each of the permanent Assessors, the sum of one thousand dollars, as their Salary for the present Year. —

The Subject of a Salary for the Town Treasurer & Collector was referred to the adjournment of this Meeting.

The Subject of leasing the upper stories of the old State House to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was again brought before the Town and after debate was referred to the adjournment; notice thereof to be given in the Public Papers. —

Adjourned to Thursday 22nd. Instant 10 °Clock A.M.

Thursday June 22nd. 1820 —

The Town met according to Adjournment at 10 °Clock A.M.

The Application of Joseph Stone & Others, "That the Town would grant a sum of money towards defraying the expense of removing the Gun House from Copps Hill & rebuilding the same for the accommodation of the Artillery & Infantry companies" was read & Committed to.

Eliphalet Williams — Benjamin Whitman
Joseph E. Smith — Thomas Badger and
Henry J. Oliver Esqrs. to consider the subject and [**260**] Report at this Meeting.

The Committee informed the Town, that they were not ready to report at this Meeting.
They requested further time; which was granted.

The Committee of Finance to whom was referred the subject of uniting the offices of Town & County Treasurer Report. —That in their opinion the two offices may be united, and the duties performed by one person; They therefore recommend that a committee be chosen by the Town, to apply to the Legislature, to obtain such an alteration in the Law relating to the Election & Duties of the County Treasurer, as may be necessary to effect a junction of the offices in one person. —

Submitted Pr. Order,
Eliphalet Williams Chairman.

Selectmens Room June 16th. 1820.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted and the Selectmen were chosen a Committee to apply to the Legislature for such alterations in the Law, as may be necessary to effect the object of the Report.

The following Report was laid before the Town by the Chairman of the Committee of Finance. — Viz^{t}.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Finance, at the Selectmens Room June 13th. 1820.

Voted. That the sum of Twenty five hundred dollars per Annum be allowed to the Town Treasurer & Collector for the performance of the duties of those offices; which sum is to include all the expenses of office, contained in the Accounts of the Treasurer & Collector of the last Year, and paid by him.

[**261.**] Voted, that the Chairman prepare a report of the proceedings of the Board on this subject, and present the same at the next Town Meeting. —

Eliphalet Williams, Chairman per Order.

Selectmens Room June 13 ^{h}. 1820.

The foregoing Report was read & upon motion it was voted, that the sum of two thousand, five hundred dollars, be allowed & paid into the Town Treasurer and Collector, for the ensuing Year, for his Salary, for Clerk hire, expenses of Office, and pay of his Deputies. —

Voted, That the Town will Lease to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, all the rooms, above the lower story in the Old State House, except the two rooms, on Cornhill, for the sum of Six hundred dollars per Annum, and upon such conditions as may be agreed upon by said Grand Lodge & the Selectmen of the Town.

The School Committee to whom was referred, the Report from the Committee of Primary Schools. — Have given the Subject such consideration as the time allowed them would permit. — they ask for further time to consider the subject, with liberty to report at some future Meeting of the Town.

Submitted by Order. — Eliphalet Williams, Chairman.

The foregoing Report was Read & Accepted, and further time was allowed to the Committee agreeably to their request. —

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be presented to Stephen Codman Esq^{r}. for his able, faithful & impartial Services as Moderator of this Meeting. —

The Meeting was then Dissolved.

Attest. Tho. Clark Town Clerk. —

[262.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 4th day of July A.D. 1820 — 9 °Clock A.M.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting. — Read. —

Thomas Clark, was chosen, Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last Year, to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence, Reported, That they had chosen Theodore Lyman Junr. Esqr. who had Accepted the Appointment.

Adjourned to the Old South Church, to meet at 12 °Clock M.

Met at the Old South according to adjournment where an Oration was delivered by Theodore Lyman Junr. Esqr. to commemorate the Independence of the
United States of America.——

Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Theodore Lyman Junr. Esqr. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant & spirited oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of American Independence wherein were considered the feelings, manners & principles which produced the great National event, and the important & happy effects, general & domestic, which have already, or will forever flow, from that auspicious epoch and to request of him a copy, for the press. ——

[263.] Voted, That the Gentlemen, Selectmen be & hereby are appointed, a Committee to apply to some able and learned gentleman to deliver an oration, on the 4th. of July 1821. — that day being the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners and principles, which led to this great National event, as well as the important and happy effects, which have already or will forever flow from that Auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[264.] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 21st. day of August A.D. 1820. 10 °Clock A.M.

Prayer by the Rev: Doctr. Baldwin.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting, Read

The Act of the Legislature of the Commonwealth for Calling the Meeting, read, also an extract from a Law regulating Elections, was read. —

The Chairman of the Selectmen stated the question before the Town, to be this. —

"Is it expedient that Delegates should be chosen to meet in Convention for the purpose of revising or altering the Constitution of Government, of this Commonwealth." and requested all those in favor of calling a Convention, to bring in a written ballot. *Yes:* and all those opposed to the measure, a written ballot, *No.*

Voted, That the Poll be Closed at 2 °Clock.

Upon the close of the Poll, it appeared that there were One thousand & twenty nine Yeas. and Fifty Nays.

A Return was signed and directed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as the Act directs. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest, Tho: Clark, Town Clerk. —

[**265.**] At a Meeting of the Committee of Finance held by adjournment at the Selectmens Room June 13th. 1820.

Present, the Chairman, Messrs. Billings, Child, Fennelly Fitch, Babcock, Baxter and Wells, of the Selectmen. Messrs. Coolidge, Webster, May, E. Phillips & Hall of the Overseers of the Poor, and Messrs Whitman, Welch, Bass, Thayer, Homes & Bordman of the Board of Health.

Voted, That the Board proceed to elect by ballot a Town Treasurer & Collector, for the Year ensuing & that Messrs. Welch & May, collect, count & sort the Votes.

The Committee reported that they had attended the service assigned them, and that the whole number of votes was nineteen, and that they were all for Andrew Sigourney Esqr. who accordingly was declared to be unanimously chosen.

Voted, That a Committee of three, be chosen by ballot to wait upon Mr. Sigourney to inform him that the board had unanimously elected him Town Treasurer and Collector for the Year ensuing; the sum fixed as a Salary for the performance of the duties of those Offices, & to require of him the names of the

gentlemen, whom he proposes, to give as his Bondsmen on his acceptance of the Offices, and report at the adjournment of this Meeting. —

Voted, That the former Committee, collect, count, & Sort the Votes. — The Committee reported the whole number of Votes to be eighteen & that the majority was for Mess^{rs}. Whitman, Webster, & Wells, who were declared to be elected. —

[**266.**] Doct^{r}. Webster requested to be excused from the service which was granted and M^{r}. Chairman was added to the Committee.

A true Copy from the proceedings of the Committee of Finance. —

Attest Tho: Clark, Town Clerk. —

At a Meeting, in Convention, of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and board of Health, at the Selectmens Room July 28th 1820. —

Present, M^{r} Chairman, Babcock, Billings, Wells, Loring, Child & Fennelly of the Selectmen, Mess^{rs}. Perkins, Mackay, Snelling, Coolidge, May, Bass, Webster & Hall of the Overseers. and Mess^{rs}. Whitman, Homes, Bradlee, Davis, Carver, Thayer, Tiles, ston, Otis, Bordman, Welch & Jackson of the Board of Health. —

S. A. Wells was chosen Secretary. —

The Chairman of the Committee chosen at the Meeting (of the Committee of Finance) of the 13th June to wait upon the Town Treasurer and Collector and inform him of his appointment to these Offices, Reported, that they called at the Treasurers Office for the above purpose and were informed by his Clerk, that the Treasurer was absent from Town and would be absent many days; That on return of the Treasurer, he waited upon & informed him that he had been unanimously chosen Treasurer & Collector for the Year ensuing. — M^{r}. Sigourney replied that he declined accepting the Offices, and was ready to deliver up the books & papers to any person or persons duly authorized to receive them. — It was then moved by M^{r}. Whitman; "That the Convention now proceed to make choice of a [**267**] Treasurer & Collector for the Year ensuing." which being put, after some debate passed in the negative. —

On motion of M^{r}. Coolidge Wednesday next 10 °Clock A.M. was assigned for the Choosing of a Town Treasurer and Collector for the Year ensuing — It was Voted, that the Secretary be requested to insert in the several newspapers, the Vote of this Convention relative to a choice of Town Treasurer & Collector.

The Committee chosen to examine the Books and to adopt some mode relating to the disposition of the money of the Town in the hands of the Treasurer &c. were requested to report at the adjournment.

Voted, That all legal Meetings of the Convention must be composed of a Majority of the members of each Board.

The meeting was adjourned to Wednesday next. —

At an Adjourned Meeting of the Convention, consisting, of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health at the Selectmens Room August 2nd. 1820. Present Mr. Chairman, Child, Billings, Loring, Fennelly, Babcock, Wells, Webster, Perkins, Snelling, Hall, May, Bass, Coolidge, Mackay, Whitman, Thayer, Bordman, Bradlee, Carver, Welch, Jackson, Wilkinson, Otis, Tileston, Davis, Homes.— The Meeting being called to order.— The Chairman laid before the Convention Applications of the following persons for the Offices of Town Treasurer & Collector.— Vizt. Peter Coffin, Gamaliel Bradford, Andrew C. Dorr, John Pickens Jr. Daniel Munroe Jr. Charles Hammatt, Samuel Norwood, Turner Phillips and Bryant P. Tilden.— Whereupon it was — Voted, That, [268] the Convention proceed by ballot for selection of Candidates for Town Treasurer, and that the three candidates having the highest number of Votes, shall be the candidates Voted for at a Second trial for that office.

Voted, that a Committee be chosen to collect, sort and count the votes and Messrs. Welch, May & Loring were chosen.— This Committee reported, that they had attended to the duty, and that the whole number of Votes was twenty seven, of which Turner Phillips had 13. Bryant P. Tilden 8. Samuel A. Wells 2. E. Williams 1. A. C. Dorr 1. John Pickens 1. Charles Hammat 1. The Three highest candidates being the first named were to be voted for at the next trial, whereupon S. A. Wells declined being considered a candidate.— The Committee then proceeded to collect the votes, who retired and reported the whole number to be 27.— of which Turner Phillips had sixteen & Bryant P. Tilden eleven, whereupon Mr. Phillips was declared to have been chosen.—

Voted, That the Convention now proceed to elect by ballot a Collector for the Year ensuing and the same Committee was chosen to collect, sort & count the votes; who reported the whole number to be twenty seven and that all were for Turner Phillips —

Voted, That the same Committee be requested to wait on Turner Phillips and inform him that he had been chosen Town Treasurer & Collector for the Year ensuing and to require the names of his bondsmen.

The Committee reported that they had attended to the Service; that Mr. Phillips declared his acceptance of the offices, & proposed Jonathan Hunnewell and Ebenezer T. Andrews as his bondsmen.

[269.] Voted, That the same Committee be requested to retire and report, whether in their opinion the Bondsmen offered by Mr. Phillips were good and sufficient sureties.—

The Committee reported that the Bondsmen were good and sufficient, which report was Accepted.

Voted, That the Town Clerk be directed to make a record of the proceedings of this Convention in the Town Records kept by him, According to Law.—

Voted, that the vote passed at the last Meeting relating to the number that is necessary to do business shall be amended to read as follows.—

Voted, that all legal Meetings of the Convention and adjournments of the same, must be composed of a Majority of the members of each board.—

Voted, that the Convention now resolve itself into a Committee of Finance.—

Attest S. A. Wells Secy.

A true record of the Proceedings of the Convention
Attest
Tho: Clark, Town Clerk—

[270.] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to vote for Representatives to the General Court of the Commonwealth held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 16th. day. of October A.D. 1820. 9 °Clock A.M.

Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Dwight.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting, Read—

This Meeting was called in conformity to an Act of the Legislature, and a proclamation by the Governor of the Commonwealth, for the purpose of Choosing one or more Delegates, to meet Delegates, from the Other Towns in Convention at the State House, in Boston, on the third Wednesday of November next, to take into consideration the propriety and expediency of making any (and if any what) alterations or amendments in the present Constitution of Government of the Commonwealth.—

The Chairman of the Selectmen having read the Governors Proclamation; stated to the Inhabitants, that by a return of the rateable Polls, made by the Assessors, the Town was entitled to send forty eight Representatives to the General Court of this Commonwealth. Whereupon a Motion was made & seconded

that the Town proceed to elect Forty five Delegates to represent the Inhabitants of this Town, in the Convention to be held in November next, which Motion being put by the Chairman, passed unanimously in the affirmative. It was then voted to close the Poll at 1 °Clock, P.M.

[271.] The Votes having been received, sorted & counted, it appeared that the following (forty five) named gentlemen had the number of Votes set against their respective names, and were declared to be chosen — viz^{t}.

His Honor William Phillips	1503	Hon. William Gray	1682
Hon. Isaac Parker	1285	Hon. Charles Jackson	1091
" Thomas Dawes	1665	" John Davis	1083
" Daniel Davis	1078	" William Prescott	1096
" Artemas Ward	1090	James Prince Esq^{r}.	1087
Rev. James Freeman	1081	Hon. John Phillips	1689
Hon. Josiah Quincy	1049	" Peter C. Brooks	1095
" John Welles	1090	" Israel Thorndike	1050
" Jonathan Hunewell	1654	Rev. Thomas Baldwin	1652
Thomas Melville Esq^{r}.	1074	Hon. William Sullivan	1535
Redford Webster Esq^{r}.	1074	George Blake Esq^{r}.	1658
Hon. Daniel Webster	1223	John T. Apthorp Esq^{r}.	1066
Benjamin Russell Esq^{r}.	1585	Daniel Messinger Esq^{r}	1630
Warren Dutton Esq^{r}.	1072	Joseph Coolidge Esq.	1058
John Cotton Esq^{r}.	1054	Lemuel Shaw Esq^{r}.	1084
Joseph Tilden Esq^{r}.	1089	Doct^{r}. John C Warren	1078
William Harris Esq^{r}.	1623	Samuel Hubbard Esq^{r},	1077
Rev. Paul Dean	1638	Eliphalet Williams Esq^{r}.	1640
James T Austin Esq^{r}.	1644	William Sturgis Esq^{r}.	1055
James Savage Esq^{r}.	1058	Heman Lincoln	1613
Rev. Henry Ware	1073	NathanHale Esq^{r}.	1039
Samuel A. Wells Esq^{r}.	1208	Lynde Walter	1573
George Bond	969		

Votes given for the following persons, who did not obtain a Majority viz^{t}. William Phillips 191 *
Isaac Parker 193 *

Hon. Henry Dearborn	608	Rev^{d}. William Jenks	595
[272] Amos Binney Esq^{r}.	599	Samuel H. Walley Esq^{r}.	602
Benjamin Whitman Esq^{r}.	591	William Little Esq^{r}.	602
Benjamin Rich Esq^{r}.	608	S L Knapp Esq^{r}	593
Daniel Baxter Esq^{r}.	604	David Sears Esq^{r}.	597
Doct^{r}. W^{m}. Ingalls	597	John Bellows	567
Hon. Jonathan Mason	574	Rev. Daniel Sharp	594
William Foster Jun^{r}.	579	Col Thomas Badger	600
Joseph Hall Esq^{r}.	602	Col Thad^{s} Page	584
Stephen Codman Esq^{r}.	576	George Hallet	603
John P. Rice	579	Joseph Jenkins	577
Giles Lodge	560	Rev. Hosea Ballou	579
Thomas B. Wait	589	Davis C. Ballard	593

Thomas K. Thomas	566	Right Rev John Cheverus	410
Samuel Billings	19	H. G. Otis	3
John Lowell	9	Peter O. Thacher	3
Horace Bean	7	Thos. K. Jones	3
John Brazer	6	Elbridge Gerry	3
Josiah Rainsford	5	Saml. Snelling	3
Thos. Wigglesworth	5	David Townsend	4
Francis J. Oliver	5	Edward Jones	3
John Gallison	4	Augustus Peabody	3
Nathan Webb	4	David Henshaw	2
Rev J G Palfrey	4	Charles Hood	10
William Donnison	4	Revd. John Pierpont	8
Jona. Amory	3	Rev Charles Lowell	8
Thomas Jackson	3	William Gray	5
John Bryant	3	Sereno E. Dwight	5
William B. Bradford	3	Aaron Hill	5
Henry Orne	3	Arnold Welles	5 & 1
Thomas L. Winthrop	3	Ebenr. Francis	4
Martin Brimmer	3	Israel Munson	4
William R. Gray	3	Asa Whitney	4
Isaac Winslow	16	Rev Wm E. Channing	3
Aaron Dexter	8	Joseph Austin	3
Samuel Brown	7	Daniel Carney	3
Richd. D. Tucker	6	Leach Harris	3
Dr. James Jackson	5	James Perkins	3
Benjamin West	5	Francis Bassett	3
Josiah C. Rainsford	5	Benja. Rand	4
Simon Wilkinson	4	D. W. Child	2
Rev Asa Eaton	4	John Richards	2
George Sullivan	4		
[273] Turner Phillips	2	Benja. Huntington	1
Reuben Carver	2	William Thurston	1
J. Frothingham	2	Saml. Soley	1
James Ridgway	2	Saml. McClary	1
J. C. Jones	2	Thomas Eaton	1
Jesse Putnam	2	Henry Bass	1
Wm Channing	2	Horace Gray	1
J. C. Merrill	2	Thos. Parsons	1
Wm D. Sohier	2	Elijah Williams	1
Thomas Kendall	2	J. P. Boyd	1
William Minot	2	Rev Francis Parkman	1
Jos Salisbury	2	E. Cushing	1
Edward Tuckerman	2	Thos. Savage	1
S. D. Parker	2	S. K. Williams	1
George G. Channing	1	William Jackson	1
Samuel Hastings	1	Jona. Symonds	1
Isaac Stevens	2	David Hale	2
S. A. Shed	2	James S. Lovel	2
Joseph May	1	Abm H. Quincy	2
John Baker	1	Jacob Sternes	4

William Gale - - - - - 1
Isaac Harris - - - - - 1
Francis C. Gray - - - 1
Patrick Jackson - - - 1
Thomas Dennie - - - - 1
Ab Babcock - - - - - 1
Thos Howe - - - - - 1
A W Fuller - - - - - 1
Nath Goddard - - - - 1
Theop^{s}. Parsons - - - 1
Zeb Cook J^{r}. - - - - 1
Henry Hall - - - - - 1
Joseph Adams - - - - 1
Patrick T Jackson - - - 2
Fitch Tufts - - - - - 2
Edmund Wright - - - 2
Darius Boardman - - - 2
Gerry Fairbanks - - - 2
Caleb Loring - - - - 2
Benj^{a}. Wells - - - - 2
Daniel Adams - - - - 3
J. S. J. Gardner - - - 2
H. H. Fuller - - - - 2
J. D. Harris - - - - - 2
E. Ticknor - - - - - 2
Phineas Upham - - - - 2
Win^{s}. Lewis - - - - - 2
Robert Fennelly - - - 1
Is Cook - - - - - - - 1
Josiah Knapp - - - - 1
[274] Samuel Dorr - - 1
G. W. Otis - - - - - 1
Thomas Vose - - - - 1
Nath^{l}. Curtis - - - - 1
Sam^{l}. Hichborn - - - - 1
W. J. Spooner - - - - 1
J. G. Coffin - - - - - 1
H. K. May - - - - - 1
Nath^{l}. Willis - - - - 1
Nehe^{h} Parsons - - - - 1
William Foster - - - - 1
William Brown - - - - 1
Joseph Bradlee - - - - 1
Matthew Lodge - - - - 4
The^{o}. Lyman Jun^{r}. - - 1
Benj^{a}. Joy - - - - - 1
George Brinley - - - - 1
Joseph Eaton - - - - 1
Fra Barrett - - - - - 1
Sam^{l}. Parkman - - - - 1

Roland Hartshorn - - - 2
Daniel Sargent - - - - 2
Josiah Marshall - - - 2
William Cochran - - - 2
J. K. Simpson - - - - 2
Jacob Hall - - - - - 2
Thomas Motley - - - - 2
H. J. Oliver - - - - 2
B. P. Tilden - - - - 2
Thomas Davis . - - - - 1
D. E. Powers - - - - 1
Zeal Shidmore - - - - 1
Joseph Balch - - - - 1
Alden Bradford - - - - 1
Henry Purkitt - - - - 1
Jon^{a}. Chapman - - - - 1
Elijah Morse - - - - 2
Sam^{l} H. Howe - - - - 1
John Belknap - - - - 1
Elijah Loring - - - - 1
Amos Fitch - - - - - 1
George Burroughs - - - 1
Samuel Adams - - - - 1
S. P. Gardner - - - - 1
T. Barnard - - - - - 1
Dan^{l}. Tuttle - - - - - 1
Willard Phillips - - - 1
Thad^{s}. Clap - - - - - 1
J. F. Boardman - - - 1

Barz^{a} Homes - - - - 1
Lemuel Packard - - - 1
George Cabot - - - - 1
Timothy Bigelow - - - 1
John D. Williams - - - 1
John Hurd - - - - - 1
Samuel Danforth - - - 1
Joseph Head - - - - 1
Jon^{a}. Whitney - - - - 1
Jon^{a}. Loring - - - - 1
Jacob Bigelow - - - - 1
Joseph Balch - - - - 1
James Robinson - - - 1
Tho: Minns - - - - - 1
Gardner Green - - - - 1
Jer^{h} Evarts - - - - - 1
James Lloyd - - - - 1
John Pratt - - - - - 1
Henry Lee - - - - - 1
James Andrews - - - - 1

Benj[a] Smith - - - - -	1	Thomas Bradlee - - -	1
John Randall - - - - -	1	William Shimmin - - -	1
John Callender - - - -	1	Tho[s] Ward - - - - -	1

N. B. The whole number of Tickets given in was 1708

necessary to make a choice — 855

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest, Tho: Clark, Town Clerk.

[275.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston qualified to vote for Representatives to the General Court of the Commonwealth held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 23[rd]. day of October A.D. 1820. 10 °Clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev: M[r]. Ware

Warrant for Calling the Meeting, Read —

A Precept from the Governor and Council directing the Selectmen to call the Meeting, for Choice of a Member of Congress, in place of Hon Jonathan Mason, resigned, was also read.—

Voted, That the Poll be closed at 2 °Clock.—

The Chairman of the Selectmen requested the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their Votes for a Representative for the Suffolk District in the Congress of the United States.

Persons voted for a Representative, for the Suffolk District, in the present Congress of the United States Viz.—

Hon: Benjamin Gorham - - - - - - - - - - - -				1618
Samuel A. Wells Esq[r]. - - - - - - - - - -				842
Henry Orne Esq[r]. - - - - - - - - - - - -				652
Daniel Webster	2	Peter C. Brooks	1 - - - - -	3
Daniel Brown	1	Samuel Billings	1 - - - - -	2
William Blaney	1	Eben[r]. Clough	1 - - - - -	2
David Ellis	1	William Sturgis	1 - - - - -	2
Benjamin Gorham for Senator - - - - - - - - -				2
		Whole number		3123

[276.] A return of the doings of this Meeting was made out, conformably to the printed direction of the General Court; — sealed up in Open Town Meeting, and directed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.—

Declaration of the State of the Votes, being made;

The Meeting was Dissolved.—

Attest Tho: Clark, Town Clerk.—

[277.] At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to Vote for Representatives to the General Court, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 6th day of November A. D. 1820.

10 °Clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Frothingham —

Warrant for Calling the Meeting. read.

Resolve of the General Court, regulating the Choice of Electors of President & Vice President of the United States, read. —Also a Precept from the Governor and Council, directing the Selectmen to call a Meeting for choice of a Member of Congress in place of Mr. Mason resigned, there having been no choice at the Meeting held on the 23rd Ultimo. — And the Law regulating the Choice of Representatives to Congress, being read.—

The Chairman of the Selectmen requested the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their Votes, for one person as an Elector of President & Vice President of the United States, for the District of Suffolk, Also for Two persons, as Electors at large, Also for one person as a Member of the Sixteenth Congress and for one person as a Member of the Seventeenth Congress of the United States. —

Voted, That the Poll be closed at Two °Clock

Persons, Voted for as an Elector for the District of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each person, vizt.

Hon: Daniel Webster					3404
Samuel Brown	1	Henry Orne	1		2
David Ellis	1	Winslow Lewis	2		3
Thomas H. Perkins					1
Hon: Henry Dearborn					209

[278.] Persons, Voted, for as Electors at large — viz[t]

Hon: William Phillips					3439
" William Gray					3455
" Henry Dearborn					1
" Benjamin W. Crowninshield					173
" Levi Lincoln					175
Doddridge Spear	1	S. A. Wells	1		2
Winslow Lewis	3	John Adams	1		4
William Sullivan	1	Peter C. Brooks	1		2
George Cabot	1	Joseph Storey	1		2

Persons Voted for as Member of the Sixteenth Congress. viz[t].

Hon Benj[a]. Gorham					2187
Samuel A. Wells					1363
Samuel Hubbard	1	Jesse Putnam	50		51
D. Webster	2	Louis Lincoln	1		3
W[m]. Ingalls	1	W[m]. Sturgis	3		4
Henry Orne	1	W[m]. Little	2		3
Fitch Tufts	2	Dan[l]. Adams	1		3
John Brazer	2	John Fitch	1		3
Samuel Brown	2	John Welles	1		3

Levi Dame one not designated —

Persons, Voted for as a Member of the Seventeenth Congress viz[t]. —

Hon Benjamin Gorham				2187
Samuel A. Wells				1363
Jesse Putnam				49
Daniel Webster				2
Samuel Hubbard	1	Lewis Lincoln	1	
William Ingalls	1	William Sturgis	3	
[279] Henry Orne	1	William Little	2	
Fitch Tufts	2	Daniel Adams	1	
John Brazer	2	Amos Fitch	1	
Charles Hood	1	Samuel Brown	2	
Winslow Lewis	1			

Declaration of the state of the Votes, was made and three several returns, were signed, sealed up in Open Town Meeting, and directed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest, Tho: Clark, Town Clerk. —

1821.

[280.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, Assembled in Faneuil Hall on Monday the 15[th]. day of January A.D. 1821. 10 °Clock. A.M.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting. Read. —

Francis J. Oliver Esq^{r}. was Chosen Moderator.

The Petition of Thomas K. Jones and Others. "That the Town would permit them (at their own expense) to close a draw under Merchants Hall, and to raise & pave Water Street in such a manner as the waste water may be conveyed into the common sewer in Kilby Street" was taken up and after some debate committed to Mess^{rs}. Robert Williams, John Dorr, Joseph W. Revere, Michael Roulstone, Josiah Marshall, Benjamin Whitman and Samuel H. Walley to consider the subject and report at a future Meeting —

The Petition of William Payne and Others was read and the following Bye Law passed, Viz^{t}.

Bye Law.

It is hereby Ordered, That every Owner of unoccupied Land, Tenant, or Occupant of Real Estate situated on any Street, Lane or Alley within the Town of Boston, where there is a foot way or side Walk, shall within twenty four hours after the falling of Snow, cause the same to be removed from the said Foot Way or Side Walk, under the penalty of Four Dollars, and the further sum of Two Dollars for every twenty four hours [**281**] the same may remain after the first forfeiture, to be sued for and collected from either the owner of unoccupied Land, tenant or Occupant of said Real Estate. Provided that no prosecution shall be made under this Law, but by one of the Selectmen, or some person Authorized by one of them. And provided also that all fines or forfeitures recovered under this Law shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Town of Boston for the Use of said Town. —

Voted, That the Town Clerk be directed to Lay an attested copy of the foregoing Bye Law, before the Justices of the Hon Court of Sessions for their Approbation and Confirmation. —

Proceedings of the School Committee, respecting an English Classical School. —

In School Committee June 17th. 1820.

Voted, That such of the Resolutions offered by S. A. Wells as relate to the establishment of an English Classical School in the Town of Boston, be referred to a Sub Committee of five, and the following Gentlemen were Chosen. — M^{r}. Samuel A. Wells, Rev: John Pierpont, Rev: Nath^{l}. L. Frothingham, Lemuel Shaw and Benjamin Russell Esq^{rs}.

At a Meeting of the School Committee on the 26th October, the above Committee made a report which was Read; it was then

Voted, That it is expedient to establish an English Classical School, upon the Plan stated in the Report in the Town of Boston, and that the further consideration thereof be referred to an adjourned Meeting, and that it be printed for the Use of the members of the Committee. —

[282.] At a Meeting of the School Committee on the 9th November, 1820. the Report of the Sub-Committee on the English Classical School, having been printed for the Use of the Board, was read and considered by paragraphs, Amended, and Unanimously Accepted as follows

The Sub-Committee to whom was referred the resolutions offered to the School Committee at a Meeting on the 17th June proposing to establish an English Classical School in the Town of Boston, having taken the subject of those resolutions into consideration, and devoted to it that attention which its importance demanded, Respectfully ask leave to Report. —

Though the present system of education, and the munificence with which it is supported are highly beneficial and honorable to the Town, Yet in the Opinion of the Committee it is susceptible of a greater degree of perfection and usefulness without Materially Augmenting the Weight of the public burdens. — Till recently our system Occupied a middle Station : it neither commenced with the rudiments of education, nor extended to the higher branches of knowledge. —This system was supported by the town at a very great expense, and to be admitted to its advantages, certain preliminary qualifications were required at individual cost which had the effect of excluding many children of the poor and unfortunate classes of the community from the benefits of a public education. The Town saw & felt this inconsistency in the plan and have removed the defect, by providing Schools, in which the children of the poor can be fitted for admission into the public seminaries.

[283.] The present system, in the Opinion of the Committee requires, still further amendment. — the studies that are pursued at the English Grammar Schools, are merely elementary, and more time than is necessary is devoted to their acquisition. A Scholar is admitted at seven, and is dismissed at fourteen Years of Age ; thus seven years are expended in the acquisition of a degree of knowledge, which with ordinary diligence and common capacity, may be easily & perfectly acquired in five. If, then, a Boy remain the usual term, a large portion of the time will have been idly, or uselessly expended, as he may have learned all that he has been taught long before its expiration. This loss of time Occurs at that interesting and critical period of life, when the habits and inclinations are forming by which the future character will be fixed & determined.

This evil therefore should be removed, by enlarging the present system, not merely that the time now lost may be saved, but that

those early habits of industry and application may be acquired, which are so essential in leading to a future life of Virtue and usefullness.

Nor are these the only existing evils. The mode of education now adopted and the branches of knowledge that are taught at our English Grammar Schools, are not sufficiently extensive, nor otherwise calculated to bring the powers of the mind into operation, nor to qualify a youth to fill usefully and respectably many of those Stations, both public and private in which he may be placed. — A parent who wishes to give a Child an education that shall fit him for Active life, and shall serve as a foundation for [**284**] eminence in his profession, whether Mercantile or Mechanical, is under the necessity of giving him a different education from any which our public Schools can now furnish.— Hence many children are separated from their parents, and sent to private academies in this vicinity, to acquire that instruction which cannot be obtained at the public seminaries. — Thus many parents who contribute largely to the Support of these institutions, are subjected to heavy expense, for the same object in other Towns.

The Committee for these and many other weighty considerations that might be offered; and in Order to render the present system of public education more nearly perfect, are of Opinion that an additional school is required.— They, therefore, recommend the founding of a seminary to be called the English classical School, and submit the following as a general outline of a plan for its organization and of the course of studies to be pursued.—

1st. That the term of time for pursuing the course of studies proposed be three Years.—

2ndly. That the School be divided into three Classes, and one Year be assigned to the studies of each Class.—

3dly. That the age of admission be not less than twelve Years.

4thly. That, the School be for Boys exclusively.

5thly. That Candidates for admission be proposed on a given day annually, but scholars with suitable qualifications may be admitted at any intermediate time to an advanced standing.

6thly. That Candidates for admission shall be subject to a strict examination, in such manner as the School Committee may direct, to Ascertain their qualifications [**285**] according to these Rules.—

7thly. That it be required of every candidate to qualify him for admission, that he be well acquainted with reading, writing, English Grammar in all its branches, & Arithmetic as far as simple proportion.—

8thly. That it be required of the Masters & Ushers, as a necessary qualification, that they shall have been regularly educated at some University.

The Studies of the first Class to be as follows.—
Composition;
Reading from the most approved Authors;—Exercises in criticism, comprising critical analyses of the language, grammar and stile of the best English Authors, their errors and beauties; Declamation;
Geography; Arithmetic, continued; Algebra.

The Studies of the Second Class.
Composition; Reading;
Exercises in Criticism Declamation; Algebra: } Continued
Ancient & Modern history & chronology; Logic; Geometry;
Plane Trigonometry, and its application to mensuration of heights and distances;
Navigation; Surveying;
Mensuration of Superficies and Solids;
Forensic discussions.

The Studies of the third Class.—
Composition; Exercises in Criticism; Declamation; Mathematics; Logic; History, particularly that of the United States. } Continued
[286] Natural Philosophy, including Astronomy; Moral & Political Philosophy.

To conduct a seminary of this description, the Committee are of Opinion, that one principal Master, one submaster and two Ushers, will be required;

The Principal at a Salary of	$1500 Pr. Ann	
Sub Master - - - - - -	1200 — " —	
Two Ushers, one at $700. one at $600 - - - - - - -	1300 — " —	
	———	$4000

This sum in the opinion of the Committee, with other annual expenses of Schools, will be adequate to the support of such an institution. No additional building will be required; as those which are now built, and authorized by the Town to be built will be sufficient. —

The Committee therefore recommend, that an annual Appropriation of this sum, be obtained from the Town, and that a further sum be raised either by private subscription, or from public Munificence, to furnish the School, with the necessary instruments and philosophical Apparatus. — The Committee are further of Opinion, that the expense which would be incurred, by the establishment, of such an institution, would be fully justified by its great and manifold advantages — No money can be better expended, than that which is appropriated to the support of public Schools. —If anything will preserve tranquility and order in a community, perpetuate the blessing of society and free government and promote the happiness and prosperity of a people, it

must be the general diffusion of knowledge. — These Salutary effects the Committee conceive would flow from the institution of this seminary. — Its establishment, they think would raise the literary and scientific character of the Town, would incite our Youth to [287] a laudable ambition of distinguishing themselves in the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge, and would give strength and stability to the civil and religious institutions of our Country.

All of which is respectfully submitted by Order of the Committee. — S. A. Wells, Chairman
Boston Oct^{r} 26. 1820.

Voted that this Report with the proceedings thereon be printed and distributed among the citizens of the Town, and that the Plan of the School therein stated be recommended by this Committee to the people for acceptance. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be requested to carry this vote into effect, and to call a public Meeting of the inhabitants of the town to consider and act thereon at such time as they shall deem expedient.

By Order of the School Committee
Eliphalet Williams Chairman

The foregoing plan for the establishment of an English Clas*y*cal School was read and after debate, was nearly unanimous*ly* Accepted by the Town, but three persons voting in the negative, and the School Committee were Authorized to carry the same into effect. —

And it was further, Voted, That the School Committee from Year to Year, be & hereby are instructed to revise the course of Studies proposed in the report this day made and Accepted for the New School, and adopt such measures as experience shall dictate and the object of its establishment require. —

The Petition of Benjamin Humphries and Others relating to the Town Dock was read, & Committed to the Selectmen, and one Gentleman from each Ward. The [288] following nomination was made from the Chair and accepted by the Town, viz^{t}.

Ward N° 1. George Darracott	Ward N° 2. D^{r}. Redford Webster
" " 3. Enoch Silsby	" " 4. Nathaniel Alley
" " 5. Henry Farnham	" " 6. George W. Otis
" " 7. Daniel Davis Esq^{r}.	" " 8. Francis Welch
" " 9. Samuel May	" "10. Benj^{a}. Whitman Esq^{r}.
" "11. Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq^{r}.	" "12. John D. Williams

The Petition of Ephraim Hall and Others, to Ascertain what measures the Town will adopt to defray the expense of laying a

large and expensive Common Sewer in and contiguous to Atkinson Street was read & referred to the Selectmen and Board of Health. —

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Francis J. Oliver Esq^{r}. for his faithful Services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest Tho: Clark, Town Clerk.

[289.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to Vote in Town affairs, Assembled in Faneuil Hall on Monday the 22nd day of January 1821. — 10 °Clock A.M.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting, read. —

Benjamin Russell Esq^{r}. was chosen, Moderator.

The proposition of a number of the Inhabitants, that an application may be made by the Town, to the Legislature for an alteration in the Law, authorizing the taking the Valuation of Real & personal estates for taxation from the first day of May to the first day of February Annually, was Read & after some debate, It was Voted, That a Committee be appointed to apply to the Legislature at the present Session to authorize the Assessors of the Town of Boston to take the Valuation on the first Wednesday of February annually, instead of the first day of May. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to petition the Legislature agreeably to the foregoing Vote. —

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Ephraim Hall & Others, was requested to report at the next Meeting. —

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator for his Services at this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved. —
Attest, Tho: Clark, Town Clerk. —

[290.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders& other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, holden at Fanueil Hall on Monday the 12th. day of March A.D. 1821 at 10 o'clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev. M^r. Lowell. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

Law respecting the election of Town Officers read. —

Hon. John Phillips Esq^r., was chosen Moderator. —

Thomas Clark, was chosen Town Clerk, for the year ensuing. — The Oath of Office was administered to him by the Moderator. —

Voted, That when this Meeting is adjourned, it shall be to tomorrow at 10 o'clock A.M. and that time be assigned to come to choose on the part of the Town of a Register of Deeds for the County of Suffolk.

The Moderator directed the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their votes for Nine Selectmen.

Voted, That the Polls shall be closed at 12 o'clock.

At the close of the Poll it appeared the whole number of votes given in for Selectmen, was, 2443
necessary to make a choice - - - - - - - - - 1222

The following Gentlemen had the number of Votes set against their respective names & were declared to be chosen. —

viz	Eliphalet Williams Esq. - - - - - - - - -	2420
	Daniel Baxter - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2235
	Jon^a. Loring - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1815
	Abram Babcock - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2289
	David W. Child - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2410
[291]	Samuel Billings Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	2386
	Jeremiah Fitch - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2289
	Robert Fennelly - - - - - - - - - - - -	2388
	Samuel A. Wells - - - - - - - - - - - -	2125

G. W. Otis had	436	George Hallet	224
E. Ticknor "	156	Adam Bent	94
N. P. Russell	30	and some scattering votes.	

Hon. William Phillips	Redford Webster
Thomas Perkins	Samuel Snelling
William Mackay	Joseph Coolidge
Jon^a. Phillips	Samuel May
Henry Bass	Edward Phillips
Joseph Austin and	Gedney King

were chosen Overseers of the Poor & of the Workhouse for the year ensuing.

Voted. That the thanks of the Town be presented to Jacob Hall & Edward Tuckerman Esq[rs]. for their faithful services as Overseers of the Poor for several years past.—

Thomas Melville	Stephen Codman
Daniel Messenger	Benjamin Smith
James Phillips	Samuel M. Thayer
Joseph Lovering	John D. Williams
Jon[a]. Loring	John Mackay
Lemuel Shaw	Benj[a]. Russell
Thomas Jackson	Winslow Lewis
Amos Binney	Enoch Silsby
Isaac Harris	George W. Otis
Joseph Jones	William Howe
Jon[a]. Whitney	Jeremiah Fitch
[292] Samuel A. Wells	William Burrows
Samuel Hichborn Jr.	Jonathan Thaxter
George Darracott	William Sturgis
James Davis and	George Trott Esq[rs].

were chosen Fire Wards for the year ensuing.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be presented to Joshua Davis, Nathaniel Curtis & Bryant P. Tilden, Esq[rs]. for their faithful services as Fire Wards for many years past.

Mess[rs]. Benjamin White	John Howe Jr
William Clouston	Richard Thayer
Nathaniel Bradlee	Edward J. Robbins
Noah Doggett	Henry Blake
Thomas Christy	Moses Ayres Jr.
William Green	Oliver Mills
Eleazer Homer	Charles Tuttle
Joseph Stodder	Samuel Ellison
Allan Bowker	William Mills and
Nathaniel Glover	Rolun [Rowland] Hartshorn

were chosen Surveyors of Boards and other Lumber.

[293.] Mess[rs]. Benj[a]. White	Nath[l]. Bradlee
John Howe Jr.	Rolun [Rowland] Hartshorn
Romanus Emerson &	Abel Hewins,

were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Mess[rs]. Henry Purkitt	Benj[a]. Clark
Benj[a]. Owen	James Brown and
Nathaniel Howe	Charles Pook,

were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves.—

Mess[rs]. Benjamin Clark	Nathaniel Howe
Charles Pook	Benjamin Owen

James Brown Jn°. F. Bannister
William Spear Jacob Barstow and
Ebenezer Perry.—
were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.—

Mess^rs. Joseph Cabot John Kimball
William Andrews Royal Oliver
were chosen Hogreeves, Haywards and Field Drivers for the year ensuing.

Mess^rs. Michael Homer
Francis James and
Samuel Sprague,
were chosen Inspectors of Lime.—

Samuel Emmons and James Phillips Esq^rs. were chosen Surveyors of Hemp. —

Thomas Howe and John Tuckerman Esq^rs. were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

[294.] John Wells and Nathaniel Alley Esq^rs. were chosen Assay Masters. —

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of High Way. —

Voted, That Stephen Codman, Francis J. Oliver and Robert G. Shaw Esq^rs. be, & hereby are appointed, a Committee to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer; and said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

Voted, That the consideration of all Money matters, be referred to the May meeting.—

Adjourned to tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

The Moderator directed the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their votes for a Register of Deeds for the County of Suffolk.—

Voted That the Poll be closed at half past 11 o'clock.

The Selectmen were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the Votes.—

The Chairman reported that the Selectmen had received, sorted & counted the votes for a Register of Deeds and that they were for

	Henry Alline	1605			
	Samuel Clark	175			
	Henry N. Rogers	174			
	Thomas Jackson	120			
	John Mackay	120			
[295]	Charles Hammatt	94	Henry Codman		88
	Gershom Cobb	71	David Higgins		70
	Thomas Lewis	54	James Foster		52
	Ol. W. Champney	44	Dudley Walker		36
	John Marston	32	Benj[a]. Whitwell		27
	Henry Robinson	20	Edmund Munroe		17
	John Winslow	17	Leader Dam		15
	Lemuel P. Grosvener	15	William Foster Jr.		6
	I Ingalls	2	O. Champney		1
	Eben[r]. Andrews	1	N. Clark		1
	D. Callender	1	B. Parsons		1
	T Page	1	J. Brigham		1
	O. W. Champney	1	J. H. Smith		1
	J. T. Buckingham	1			

Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen, twelve persons shall now be chosen a *School Committee*, & the votes being collected, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — viz —

Doct. Thomas Welsh	Henry J. Oliver Esq.
Rev. Charles Lowell	Lemuel Shaw
Francis J. Oliver Esq[r].	Rev. John Pierpont
William Wells	" Daniel Sharp
Benj[a]. Russell	Doct. Jn°. G. Coffin
Rev. Nath[l]. L. Frothingham	Rev. Paul Dean

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who [296] conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be, and hereby are directed, to carry the System of Education adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also authorised & empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools and Schoolmasters which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorised by the Laws of this Commonwealth or by the votes of the Town to exercise.—

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be presented to Aaron Dexter Esq. for his able, impartial & faithful services, as a member of the School Committee for thirty two years past.

The Petition of Abraham Gould and others "That the Town would appoint a Committee to superintend the Municipal concerns of South Boston" was read — also a remonstrance against the said Petition. after some debate it was *Voted*, That the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.—

The Petitions of Joseph May and others & of Thomas Howe and others, on the subject of erecting a Work House were read — Whereupon it was *Voted*, That the subject be referred to a Committee of thirteen, to be nominated from the chair: the said [Committee] to consider the subject at large and report; and that the report be printed and distributed among the Inhabitants, and the Selectmen are requested to call a Meeting to act on said report.—

The following Gentlemen were nominated and [**297**] appointed on the Committee — viz.

Hon. Josiah Quincy	William Thurston
Joseph Lovering	Abram Babcock
James Savage	Samuel A. Wells
Henry J. Oliver	James T. Austin
Francis Welsh	Benj^{a}. Rich and
Joseph May	Joseph Woodward Esq^{rs}
Thomas Howe	

The Subscribers, a Committee, to whom was referred, by the Town of Boston, the Petition of Thomas K. Jones Esq^{r}. & others respecting a Drain, under the building called Merchants Hall, situated on Water Street, in said Boston — have attended to the duty assigned them and ask leave to report.—

That they have viewed the said Drain, have examined the title, which the Town of Boston has, to an interest in said Drain, & have heard the parties interested in said subject, & are of opinion, and do report, that the said Drain can be made tight, and so secured, as to prevent any material injury to persons doing business in said Merchants Hall. at no very great expence, and that the owners of said Merchants Hall, are under obligation to the Town of Boston and that it is their duty to keep said Drain in repair, so as to prevent any nuisance to the Inhabitants therefrom. — This [**298**] Committee are further satisfied, that the inconvenience in the Cellar under said Merchants Hall for several years past in the hot seasons, has existed from said Drain not being sufficiently tight and secured, and from the waste water from the streets flowing into said cellar; and this Committee cannot learn, that the owners of said Merchants Hall, have, for several years last passed attempted, effectually to remedy said evil — probably from a belief that it would be impracticable to remedy the evil, but by removing the said drain from under y^{e} said building — This Committee however are of opinion, that if the owners of said Merchants Hall shall put the said drain in complete repair: raise the side walk adjoining their said building, so as to prevent the water running on the streets adjacent to the said building from entering the cellar of the same, and fill up a part of said cellar, adjoining said drain, in that case all nuisance from said drain would be prevented, and

the cellar under said Merchants Hall, be rendered inoffensive to the citizens — This Committee therefore recommend, that it is inexpedient, at present, for the Town of Boston, to take any further order on this subject, untill after the owners of said Merchants Hall, have attempted to remedy the aforesaid evil, in the manner suggested, as aforesaid, by this Committee — all of which is respectfully submitted by said Committee —

Robert Williams — John Dorr
Benj^{a}. Whitman — Josiah Marshall
Joseph W. Revere — M. Roulstone

Boston Feby 24th. A.D. 1821. S. H. Walley

[**299.**] The foregoing Report was read and accepted.—

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Joseph Stone and others, to see if the Town would render them any assistance in building a new Gunhouse at the north part of the Town; have attended that service and respectfully ask leave to Report.—

That the land on which the Gun House now stands be appropriated, for the building of Tombs under the permission of the Board of Health — and that the nett proceeds, which may be realized from said appropriation, be applied towards erecting a new Gun House, for the use of said company, on any land belonging to the Town, which the Selectmen may appropriate for that purpose, should the said Company wish for the same.—

By order of the Committee
Eliphalet Williams Chair^{n}.

Boston March 10th 1821.

The above Report was read and accepted.

Voted, Unanimously, that the thanks of the Town be presented to the Hon. John Phillips, for his able & impartial services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.—

Attest Thomas Clark, Town Clerk.

[**300.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, held at Faneuil Hall on Monday the second day of April A.D. 1821. at 9 o'clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Wisner.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.—

The Constitution respecting the election of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors & Senators was read.—

The Chairman of the Selectmen requested the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their votes for Governor & Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth and Six Senators for the District of Suffolk.—

Voted, That the Poll shall be closed at 2. o'clock P.M.—

Persons voted for as Governor, with the number of votes for each person — viz —

His Excellency John Brooks	3088
Hon. William Eustis	1303
John Phillips	1
Joseph B. Varnum	1
Joseph Woodward	1
Daniel Webster	1
Eben[r]. Clough	1
Francis Waldo	1
Napo[n]. Buonaparte	1
Rev. Hosea Ballou	1
	4399

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governor with the number of votes for each person — viz —

His Honor William Phillips	3064
Hon. Levi Lincoln	1319

[301]

William Eustis	2	Edw. H. Robbins	1
Josiah Quincy	1	William Gray	1
Elisha Ticknor	1	Elias Smith	1
George Bond	1	George Read	1
Sam[l]. Adams	1	Simon Gardner	1

Persons voted for as Counsellors and Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each Person — viz.

Hon. John Phillips	3074
" John Welles	3059
" Jon[a]. Hunnewell	3011
Joseph Tilden Esq[r].	3040
Warren Dutton	2719
Lemuel Shaw	2747
Hon. William Gray	1578
Henry Dearborn	1309
Col. Thomas Badger	1275
Rev. Thomas Baldwin	1279
James T. Austin Esq[r].	1303
Doct. William Ingalls	1484

Samuel A. Wells	12	J. Salisbury	4
Sam[l]. Hubbard	10	Isaac Winslow	3
Josiah Quincy	6	T. L. Winthrop	2
D. Baxter	4	David Sears	29
W. Sullivan	3	Henry Orne	7
Hosea Ballou	3	D. Webster	4

Benj[a]. Russell	30	T. H. Perkins	3
John D. Dyer	8	P. P. F. Degrand	3
Eben[r]. Clough	6	T. Lyman	2
J. Evarts	2	W. Parmenter	2
J. Lloyd	2	J. Brooks	2
C. M. Dommett	2	B. Whitmam	1
S. G. Perkins	2	P. C. Brooks	1
S. L. Knapp	1	T. Page	1
N. Snow	1	S. Gardner	1
G. Sullivan	1	H. Lincoln	2
T. Brigham	2	S. Adams	2
S. Billings	2	J. Putnam	2
W. Little	2	J. Howe	1
J. Mason	2	W. Sturgis	1
J. Loring	1	W. H. Sumner	1
P. Richardson	1	E. Torry	1
S. Waldo	1	W. Ropes	1
D. Willis	2		
[302] S. H. Walley	1	W. D. Sohier	1
E. Vose	1	S. A. Shurtleff	1
J. H. Schaffer	1	J. F. Freeman	1
D. Townsend	1	A. Dunlap	1
F. Lane	1	W. Tileston	1
W. Phillips	1	J. Eaton	1
S. Goodnow	1	E. Williams	1
N. Gamage	1	J. Harris	1
J. H. Smith	1	F. Bassett	1
R. Sturgis	1	M. M. Hunt	1
J. Coolidge	1	T. K. Jones	1
Tho[s]. Howe	3	B. V. French	1
W. Tudor	1	W. Pelby	1
A. Hill	1	S. Soper	1
J. Russell	1	W. P. Shelton	1
R. Bacon Jr.	1	W. Eustis	1
J. Parker	1	W. Lawrence	1
J. S. Lovell	1	S. Walter	1
N. Brooks	1	G. Cabot	1
P. F. Jackson	1	T. Melville	1
F. Baker	1	N. Curtis	1
T. Bartlett	1	G. Bond	1
S. Wells	1	J. Hall Jr.	1
W. Jackson	3	Edward Jones	1

Attested copies of return of Persons voted for as Governor Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors and Senators for the District of Suffolk were sealed up in open Town Meeting (after the vote had been declared) to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by law, and directed as follows — viz —

"To Alden Bradford Esq[r]. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.—

Votes of the Town of Boston, for Governor and Lieutenant Governor sealed up in open Town Meeting."

"To Alden Bradford Esq^{r}. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. —

Votes of the Town of Boston, for Six Counsellors and Senators, for the District of Suffolk, sealed up in open Town Meeting."—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved. —

Attest Thomas Clark
Town Clerk

[303.] At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to vote for Senators or Representatives, holden at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 9th day of April A.D. 1821. being the second Monday in said month, pursuant to a Resolution of the Convention of Delegates, assembled at Boston, on the 15th of November, A.D. 1820. for the purpose of revising the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

Prayer by Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Palfrey.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.

The Articles proposed as Amendments to the Constitution, were read by [the] Chairman of the Selectmen. —

Voted, That the Poll be closed at 2 o'clock. —

The Chairman directed the Inhabitants to prepare & bring in their votes on the Amendments to the Constitution, with the words Yes, or No, annexed to each article. —

At the close of the Poll it appeared that the Votes on the several Amendments submitted by the Convention, were as follows —

	Yeas	Nays
Article First	1768	888
Article Second	1515	1133
Article Third	2553	99
Article Fourth	2462	185
Article Fifth	1642	1006
Article Sixth	2526	118
Article Seventh	1826	832
Article Eighth	2410	238
Article Ninth	1771	888
Article Tenth	1419	1230
Article Eleventh	2504	129

[304]	Article Twelfth	2442	Yeas	197	Nays
	Article Thirteenth	2558	"	85	"
	Article Fourteenth	2458	"	194	"

Declaration of the Votes for and against each article was made and then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest Thomas Clark
Town Clerk —

[305.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 7th day of May A.D. 1821. at 9 o'clock A.M. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

Francis J. Oliver Esqr. was chosen Moderator —

William Dall — Barzillia Homes
Joshua Davis — George Bond and
Moses Williams — Benja. Rich Esquires

were chosen Trustees of Neck Lands for the year ensuing —

Voted, That the Trustees of the Neck Lands be authorized and empowered to lease or sell the lands in such manner as they may think proper, any former vote of the Town to the contrary notwithstanding. —

Thomas Hammond, was chosen Pound Keeper for the year ensuing.

William Briggs was chosen a Surveyor of Lumber and of Wood for the year ensuing. —

On the Petition of Daniel Carney and others; it was Voted, That

Messrs. Daniel Carney
Jonathan Simonds, and
Henry H. Fuller Esqr.

be a Committee to form a Table, stating all the Fees of office established by law; and that the same be published with the annual report of the Committee of Finance.

[306.] Eliphalet Williams and John H. Wheeler Esquires were chosen Fire Wards. —

On the Petition of Lot Wheelright and others, inhabitants of South Boston, It was Voted, That the Town consent that the

Laws restricting buildings of Wood, more than ten feet high, may be suspended for the term of five years, so far as relates to that Section of the Town. —

On the Petition of the Overseers of the Poor "to see if the Town will authorise some person to execute a Deed of a lot of Land, set off to the Town, in Alfred, County of York, in the State of Maine." It was Voted, that Doctor Redford Webster be authorised & empowered to execute a good and sufficient Deed of a piece of land, situated in the Town of Alfred, County of York and State of Maine, in behalf of the inhabitants of this Town. —

It was voted, not to authorise the appointment of an additional Sealer of Weights and Measures; as prayed for, in the Petition of John Thompson and others. —

On the representation of the Selectmen of the situation of the present Vegetable Market: — It was Voted, That they be authorised to build a New Vegetable Market. —

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Benjamin Humphrey and others, "to take the sense of the Town what further disposition shall [**307**] be made of the Town Dock; whether the Town will sell out their interest in the same, purchase the rights of others; — or cause the same to be filled up have attended the duty assigned them and respectfully ask leave to report. —

They have taken the subject into their consideration and are unanimously of opinion [that] the Town owns a valuable property in The Town Dock — but your Committee have not been able to learn that any persons are at present desirous of purchasing the rights belonging to the Town — your Committee therefore confined their inquiries more particularly to the latter clause of their commission viz — to see if the Town will purchase the rights of the abutters or fill up the same: — Your Committee taking into consideration the proposition, that is now before the town, for a considerable enlargement of the present Vegetable & Fish Market, do not deem it expedient that any method should be proposed quieting the abutters or filling up the same the present season. — but your Committee recommend that the town request the Selectmen to improve the Towns right in the Dock, either by letting or using the same as they may think proper. —

By order of the Committee

May 3d. 1821. Eliphalet Williams, Chairman.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted.

The Committee appointed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, at a legal Meeting, holden on the 12th day of March

last "on the subject of Pauperism, at large, and on the expediency of erecting a Work House," within the said Town, having taken [**308**] those subjects into their consideration, in conformity to their instructions, ask leave to

REPORT.

That in prosecuting their inquiries, concerning the subjects referred to their consideration, they have examined the state of the present Town Alms House and compared it with institutions of a similar character, in this vicinity, particularly with those at Marblehead and Salem, and they are unanimously of opinion that the accommodations, provided for the poor, at the Alms House, in Boston are not such as comport with the honor and interests of the Town.— They are also unanimously of opinion, that in aid of the present establishment, a work house to be denominated a House of Industry, should be erected, with a sufficient quantity of land attached to it, so as to enable the poor, compelled to resort to it, to have the benefit resulting from air, employment and exercise, and the town to derive that advantage, which other towns in this vicinity experience from the well directed labour of the poor, in similar institutions. —

The document marked A, being the report of a sub-committee, appointed to inquire into the existing state of the establishments of the town, in this respect, will farther evidence and illustrate the importance and necessity of an immediate attention to these subjects. —

It is not the intention of your Committee to enter upon a laboured statement of the benefits to be derived from well managed houses of industry. The general reasonings, by which the utility of such establishments might be maintained, are superseded by a concurrence [**309**] of experience, which can neither be controverted, nor resisted.—

It appears, by a report made by a Committee of the Massachusetts Legislature, at their last session, that the experience, both of England and of Massachusetts, concur in establishing the fact "*that of all modes of maintaining the poor, the most economical, is that of work houses, or houses of industry: in which work is provided for every degree and species of ability in the pauper; and also, that of all modes of employing the labour of the poor, the best, the most healthy, and the most certainly profitable is that of agriculture; whereby the poor are enabled always, to raise, at least their own provisions.*"

It appears also, by the same report, that every town in the Commonwealth, which had resorted to such establishments, and persevered in their support, had derived from them, very great and sensible relief from the burden of maintaining the poor, to which they had been antecedently subjected, and this also had been effected by the use of means, which added both to the health, the comforts, and the happiness of the paupers themselves. —

In order, however, to leave no degree of satisfaction unattained,

which it was in their power to acquire, your Committee appointed another sub-committee to visit the Marblehead and Salem Alms Houses, two establishments in high repute, for the vigor and intelligence, with which they were conducted, and the experience, resulting from which, was likely to be decisive, in relation to the general expediency of such institutions, from the distinguished character, the inhabitants [**310**] of those towns have acquired throughout the Commonwealth, for their enterprise, prudence and intelligence. —

It appeared, by the report of this sub-committee, that "the request to be permitted to visit and examine those establishments, was received, by their respective Overseers in the most friendly and polite manner: that they were permitted to inspect every department of each institution, and that they obtained frank and unreserved answers, to all their inquiries." This examination resulted, "in the extreme gratification of the sub-committee, at the order and neatness, which prevailed, and the content and comfort of the poor, which was apparent, in both those institutions.—

The satisfaction, which the sub-committee derived from this general survey was equalled only, by that, which was consequent on the examination and consideration of the details, given by those Overseers, in relation to the success of those establishments.—

The Overseers of the Marblehead Alms House stated to the sub-committee, that the town of Marblehead had no general fund applicable to the support of the poor, except the Treasury of the town; — that the annual average of the poor, in point of number, supported in their Alms House, somewhat exceeded one hundred; — that the expence of the poor of Marblehead, from March 1820. to March 1821, was justly represented in the annexed schedule, (marked B.) by which it appears that the whole expence of supporting one hundred poor, within the Alms House, for that year, was only *thirteen hundred, and seventy five dollars, forty seven cents.*

[**311.**] Those Overseers, farther stated that, in their opinion, every thing considered, the annual expense, within the Alms House did not exceed nine, or ten dollars per head per year. The sub-committee were satisfied, that this estimate did not underrate the actual expense; particularly as there is no credit allowed in it, for one thousand days labour done upon the highways, by that portion of the able bodied tenants of the Alms House, who were capable of this species of labor.— All the highway work of Marblehead being done, by the poor of their Alms House.—

A similar and not less satisfactory result was obtained, by the examination made, by this sub-committee, of the Alms House at Salem; — By the printed report of the Overseers of that town, dated 1st March 1821, (see Schedule, C,) it appears that since the erection of their Alms House, in 1815, the expences of the town of Salem, for the support of their poor, have been reduced

from $12,779.21 cents, which it was in 1814, to $4,296.40 C'ts, which it was in the year, ending the 1st of March last. The poor, supported out of the Alms House, being included in both estimates.—

If from this amount be deducted $1,090.87 cents, the estimated value of supplies, furnished poor persons, not inhabitants of the Alms House, the whole net expense of the Salem Alms House, for the last year was only *three thousand, two hundred and five dollars fifty three cents.* The average number of poor being about three hundred and twenty, supported within the Alms House during the year, makes the arithmetical result, of the whole expense, averaged upon the tenants about $10. — p head per annum! The same as that of Marblehead. The Overseers [312] of Salem, also stated, that it was their expectation to reduce considerably, the expenses of the establishment, the ensuing year. Here, also, as in Marblehead, the sub-committee were satisfied that circumstances existed, which considerably reduced the actual expense below the estimated average. —

The schedule marked D will exhibit the whole expense of the Boston Alms House, during the year 1820, — The average number within the house, somewhat exceeding four hundred persons.

It will not be necessary, for the purpose of establishing a conviction of the necessity of a resort to a similar institution, in the town of Boston, to enter into any comparison of the result of these inquiries, with that of similar inquiries made in relation to the Alms House in this town. In order to satisfy every mind of the interest and duty in this respect, it will be sufficient to state generally, that the support of the whole poor of the town of Salem, including all out pensioners, and an average of three hundred and sixty five within the house, cost the town of Salem last year, $4,296.40 cents. That the whole poor of the town of Boston including all out pensioners and an average of about four hundred within the House, cost the Town of Boston last year, $19,934.53 c'ts.

It is apparent to your Committee that this difference is greatly owing to the contracted state of the Alms House, in comparison with the wants of the Town.

This establishment being the receptacle of all that class, which are naturally the objects of a house of industry, the consequence is that out pensioners [313] are multiplied; and this most wasteful, and most expensive mode of supplying the poor, in their own families; as well as the most liable to abuse, is rendered, in a great degree, inevitable. The entire want of land, suited to employ the poor, in any species of agriculture, or out-of-door labour, and the impracticability in so confined a space, to introduce the necessary separation of age and sex, and to provide each with employment suited to it, are also causes of this difference of expense in supporting their poor, to these towns respectively.

Your Committee, therefore, from the preceding facts and rea-

soning came, unanimously to the conclusion that a house of Industry ought forthwith to be erected, with a quantity of land, attached to it, sufficient for all the objects of such an institution.

In forming this opinion, your committee were influenced by considerations of economy; — the strong conviction that a great saving would in consequence, result to the town, in point of expense; — and above all, by a sense of the salutary influence of a well managed institution of this kind on the public morals. The obligations, which every society owes to those classes of citizens, which are liable to become pensioners on its charity, were not overlooked, in making this estimate of the Town's interest and duty.—

There are four classes of persons, to which the public arrangements, on these subjects, ought to extend, and to whose peculiarities of condition they ought, as far as any general system is practicable, to be accommodated; — 1st, the poor by reason of age; 2nd, the poor by reason of misfortune; — 3rd, the poor, by reason of infancy; 4th the poor, by reason of vice.—

[**314.**] It is very plain, that each of these classes of poor have claims upon society, differing both in their nature and degree, founded upon different principles; the sources of different duties, and requiring different proportions of sympathy and solicitude.—

Of all classes of the poor, that of virtuous old age, has the most unexceptionable claims upon society; and is that, in relation to which its charitable establishments should be so constructed as to extend, not only comfort, but a reasonable degree of indulgence. This cause of helplessness cannot successfully be feigned.—It is the consequence of a general law of our nature, to which all are equally liable. Hope and pleasure are, for this life, in a great measure extinguished. Its condition requires, therefore, a peculiar degree of consideration. Although the old, should not wholly be excused from labour, yet it is apparent that such ought to be provided as is suited to their age; if possible to their habits and former employments in life.—

A similar course of remark applies to those, who are helpless, through corporeal, or intellectual misfortune; — the effects of no vice, nor criminal indulgence. Each of these classes is entitled to particular consideration; neither should be released from every degree and kind of labour, yet what is required should be adapted to their condition, and their particular imbecillity. Something more of attention should be paid, and of pains taken, to gratify their inclinations and to supply their humble wants.—

Now the impracticability of making this first and great discrimination, in favor of these two first classes of poor, is the great defect of the Boston Alms [**315**] House. — In an establishment so restricted in point of room; and open to the indiscriminate influx of characters of all descriptions, it is impossible to make those distinctions, either in food, or in treatment, which is due to age and misfortune.

If the aged and virtuous poor are reduced to the food, and made obnoxious to the severity, or the labour, to which the vicious are subjected, it is to them a degradation, and a new and undeserved source of misery and misfortune. On the other hand, if the vicious are permitted to enjoy the comforts, or partake of the indulgence, which is due to age and misfortune, their condition becomes, not only supportable, but eligible. The fear of poverty is diminished, and the shame of dependence obliterated. Public establishments become thronged; as will never fail to be the case, whenever Alms House support is better than or even equal, in its kind, to the support to be obtained by labour. These considerations, and others, which will readily present themselves to the reflections of intelligent men, render it indispensable that an establishment should be provided which should enable the Town to make this first, and most important, and just of all discriminations between the poor, in consequence of vice; and the poor, in consequence of misfortune.

The third class, consisting of those, who are poor, and in infancy or childhood, are somewhat differently situated; and have a right to require from society a distinct attention and more scrupulous and precise supervision. Their career of existence is but just commenced. They may be rendered blessings, or scourges to society. Their course may be happy or miserable, honor — [**316**] able or disgraceful, according to the specific nature of the provision, made for their support and education. It follows that the charitable establishments of every wise and virtuous community ought to be such as to enable it to effect these interesting objects, in the most perfect and satisfactory manner. —

The present condition of the Boston Alms House, precludes all possibility of extending that free air, exercise and healthful labour, and of attaining that separation from the contamination of vicious language and example, which is requisite and due to this class. Intimately connected with this topic is that of providing for those idle and vicious children, of both sexes, and different ages, which often under the command, and always with the permission of thoughtless and abandoned parents, are found begging in our streets, or haunting our wharfs, or market places, sometimes under the pretence of employ, at others for the purpose of watching occasions to pilfer small articles, and thus beginning a system of petty stealing; which terminate often in the goal; often in the penitentiary; and not seldom, at the gallows.

Power enough already exists, in the hands of the constituted authorities, and if it do not, might easily be obtained, to rid ourselves of this nuisance, and to place these unfortunate children under either a system of discipline, or of restraint; or of useful labour. At present, however, this is absolutely impracticable. There is no place, suitable for their reception. The present Alms House is insufficient for its present tenants; more it is impossible to [**317**] accommodate. A work house, or house of

industry, is, therefore, absolutely essential, previously to taking any steps for the improvement of this unhappy, and abandoned class, of children. On this point, your committee do not apprehend that any thing more forcible can be added, to make the essential nature of such an establishment as that, which they recommend, apparent and unquestionable.

The fourth class, — the poor by reason of vice, — constitute, here, every where, by far the greater part of the poor; — amounting always, probably to a full two thirds of the whole number of adult poor. As it is for these, that the proposed house of industry is intended, in its first operations, to provide, the present, seems a proper occasion to explain the general views of your committee in relation to this establishment; and to what objects and plans those views, at present, and to what they ultimately extend. Indolence, intemperance and sensuality, are the great causes of pauperism in this country. Notwithstanding the imbecility induced by their habits and vices, it is yet found by experience, that generally speaking, all this class can do something; and very many of them a great deal; and some of them fall little, and often not at all, short of the ability to perform, daily, the complete task of a day labourer. —

The present accommodations of the Boston Alms House, not furnishing the means, nor the space for actual employ, their labour is but little, and of small account. The course of the practice of this class is, to come, or be brought to the Alms House in a state of disease, or intoxication, or, in the winter in actual want, and after [318] passing weeks, or months crowded together within its walls ; after being cured, restored and supported, during sickness and through inclement seasons, they are permitted to depart; to enter upon the same career of vice and indulgence, until they are brought back again ; to be again supported and cured; and again sent forth to commence and pursue the same circle. Now, it is apparent, that so long as this class can come when they will, and depart when they will, — so long as little, or no, work is required of them, within the walls, and there is no land belonging to the establishment, on which they can work, without, — so long as Alms House fare is upon a level, in point of quality and comfort, and often a little superior to their out-of-door support and comforts, — that they have little, or no inducement either to labour or to economize, in order to prevent their being compelled to resort to it; on the contrary, it is obvious that the certainty of a comfortable and easy life, in the winter, is a perpetual and very effectual encouragement to a thoughtless, dissipated and self indulgent course, in the summer. Accordingly institutions of this kind, when from necessity, or any other circumstances, they are conducted upon such principles, may justly be considered as encouraging and augmenting the amount of pauperism in a community. It follows, therefore, from these considerations, that it is the great duty of every society to take care their Alms Houses should be

provided with space of land and accommodations, to enable those, who have the superintendence of them to provide work for this class; and for every class in it, according to its [**319**] ability; to the end that they should never become the resort of idleness, for indulgence; nor of vice for comfort; nor of disease, for cure, without cost.

Intimately connected with these vicious poor, is that turbulent and profligate class, who, travelling the high road of shame and ruin, are found in the haunts of gambling, intemperance and debauchery; and whose quarrels, originating in their cups or their crimes, give continual occupation to the magistrates and officers of police. The only means, to which it is now in the power of the authorities of the town to resort for the purpose of preserving its peace from being disturbed by this class, are warrants of Justices, common law processes, and incurring all that trouble, vexation and expense, necessarily consequent upon proceedings of this nature. These means partake little of the character of punishment; and have still less the effect of reformation. Your committee have reason to believe that offences of this kind have of late, greatly increased; and they look with confidence towards the proposed institutions, as a means of diminishing these evils, of breaking up the haunts, in which they originate, and relieving the town from a great expense, to which it is at present subjected.

The great defect of our present establishment is that, for want of space, and want of accommodation, suitable work cannot be provided. — Previous to its being practicable to make any improvement in the existing arrangements for the poor, it is therefore, indispensable that such a house of industry should be established. —

Having unanimously come to this conclusion, [**320**] the attention of your committee was next directed to the subject of the place, where such an establishment, taking into consideration all the interests of the town, had best be located; — its extent; — probable cost; — and the general principles on which it ought to be conducted. The result of their investigations, so far as they deem it necessary or practicable, they now ask leave to suggest.

With respect to the location of the establishment, a great predilection prevailed in the minds of a majority of your committee, in favor of an Island, for that purpose; and Deer Island it was thought would be very proper and suitable. In order to satisfy themselves upon that point, they paid a visit to it, and surveyed every part of it, and after inspection and consideration of all its relations, they came to an unanimous opinion, that to attempt to locate it upon any island, and certainly upon that, would be highly inexpedient. The soil was found to be extremely poor, the situation exposed, and the great difficulty of access to it and return from it, at all seasons of the year, with certainty, and its absolute impracticability some times for many days, or even weeks, in winter, were, in the opinion of your Committee decisive objections.

There is no truth, in relation to these establishments more satisfactorily evidenced, by all the experience, both of England and Massachusetts, than that their success depends upon their being subjected to the constant supervision and inspection of a board of superintendents, composed of substantial, intelligent and active inhabitants of the town, or vicinity. It is [321] *not* sufficient that these should be men, merely in easy circumstances, prudent, intelligent and humane. It is requisite that such a board should be composed of men, bred to business, and accustomed to deal with men, in the laborious walks of life; who know what labor is; — when work is done; — and are capable of judging by the eye, or by examination, whether neglect, or refusal to work, be through mere indolence, or real imbecility. It may be adopted as a principle, applicable to all establishments of this kind, that they cannot be well conducted, for any great length of time, unless at least a considerable part of the board be men of such habits and experience. Now men, of this class, are always men, engaged in active business. To command their services, it is necessary that every facility should be given to their superintendence; that it should be enabled to be regular, uninterrupted and certain. The location of the establishment in a situation where access to it will, at all times, be easy and certain, for those charged with its superintendence, is therefore, in the opinion of your Committee, essential to its success; and that therefore a location upon an island is highly inexpedient. —

The soil of Deer island is also, in the apprehension of your Committee, another and, if not in itself, a sufficient objection, is yet, in a high degree corroborative of the opinion, they have formed. The opportunity, which agriculture affords for the economical employment of pauper industry, is one of the most favorable circumstances, to promote the success of such establishments. It is plain, that [322] success in this respect, depends upon whatever promotes, or prevents, the success in other agricultural operations. If therefore, the first location of such establishment be on a soil, singularly inauspicious, inconvenient, or impracticable, the result must be proportionably unfavorable. A good and an easy soil not only possesses this general advantage, but there is also an incidental one, resulting from the encouragement and excitement given to the paupers themselves, by such facility in the course of their labours. It is found, that when judiciously managed, even the paupers themselves, may be made to take an interest, and even a pride, in the productive results of their garden, or cultivated field; and every thing, which has a tendency to prevent disappointment, in this respect, has a tendency to excite and support the feelings, upon which such interest depends. The soil of Deer island is in a great proportion sand. Whatever there be of good soil, is high, exposed and inconvenient of access. On these accounts, as well as others, not necessary to detail, your Committee came to the unanimous opinion, that Deer island was not a proper site for the location of the proposed establishment.

The Town lands on the neck, also some situations at South Boston, were suggested to your Committee. But as the determination upon the site, should it result in favor of land, at present, the property of any private individual, might, if known, materially affect the value of those lands, and the price to the town, your Committee thought it most [323] adviseable not to proceed farther, until the opinion of the town was ascertained upon the expediency of establishing a house of industry. After this was settled, they apprehended that the questions concerning the location, the form, the extent of both the lands and buildings, as also of the principles, on which the establishment should be conducted, would be left best to the discretion of a responsible Committee, to be appointed by the town.

With respect to the cost of such an establishment, it is obvious this must depend upon particulars, not at present precisely to be ascertained, such as — whether the spot, selected for its location, be on land, at present owned by the town, or on land to be purchased; in the last case, — the value of such land, — and the number of the poor, for which it will be necessary to provide in this institution. On these, and other details, of a very general character, will ultimately depend the expense of any such new establishment.

In the opinion of your Committee, however, the establishment is indispensable, in the actual condition of the pauper relations of the town; and that, in no event, the expense can be such, as to form a reason against commencing it upon some seale, suited to the actual necessity existing, in this respect. The general view and opinions of your Committee, on this subject, are these, — that measures should be immediately taken to obtain sufficient land for the location of it; — not less *fifty acres;* — that, in this location, considerations of local benefit, or of small [324] difference of price, should have little, or no influence. *The best position for such an establishment should be secured, with a single eye to the permanent interest of the town, and ultimate success of the institution;* — that buildings should then be erected on a plan, sufficiently extensive, to accommodate forthwith, the greatest average of able poor, which are usually tenants of the Alms House every year. — This cannot exceed two hundred persons; — that the plan of the establishment should be such as to be capable of being extended, if hereafter it should be deemed expedient, and so constructed as to separate and provide for the distinct accommodation of the different classes of the poor, whose different claims upon society have herein before been stated.

For all the purposes of purchasing the requisite land, should a purchase be deemed expedient, of erecting all the buildings necessary, the present year, an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars, will, in the opinion of your Committee, be sufficient. Should experience justify an increase of the institution, the expenditure required, will of course, have relation to such increase.

It will be perceived by their fellow citizens, that the resolutions, submitted for their consideration and adoption, embrace topics of a more general character, than that of simply erecting a house of industry.

In their apprehension, the present occasion shonld not be omitted to cause full survey to be taken of [325] all the public provisions for the poor, subsisting within the town, and to ascertain, as far as practicable, in what forms and to what amount every general public charity is extended and applied; to the end of producing, if possible, a general sentiment and a unity of action among all the societies and incorporations of this nature, for the purpose of making industry, morality and economy, in all of them, indispensable conditions of relief; and of putting an end, as far as can be effected, to indiscriminate charity, and to street beggary.

How far it is possible to adopt any general system, in relation to these objects, may, perhaps, be questionable. The attempt, however, cannot be disadvantageous. A full knowledge of all the pauper relations of the town cannot fail to be useful, and may lead, through the means of recommendation, or by affecting public sentiment, or otherwise, to such a course of proceeding, in relation to the distribution of public bounty, as may tend to repress the mischievous effects of that weak and listless sensibility, miscalled benevolence, which scatters its bounty without discrimination, pampering vice, fostering indolence, encouraging audacious pretence, and thus, while it does little, or no good, and sometimes positive injury to the individual, increases, and perpetuates, and makes more troublesome and virulent, the whole mass of pauperism in the community.

Under these convictions and with these views your Committee recommend the adoption of the following votes by the town.—For the Committee.

Josiah Quincy, Chairman —

[326.] Voted, That it is expedient to establish, forthwith within this town, a House of Industry

Voted, That a Committee be appointed consisting of———— persons, with full authority to select a suitable place for the erection of a House of Industry, with an extent of land, attached to it, not less than fifty acres; and that the said Committee be authorized to take any of the unappropriated lands, belonging to the town, for that purpose; or, in case they deem any other spot, or like extent of land, within the town, a better location for such an establishment, than any the town now possesses, that they be authorized to purchase the same; and that the said Committee be instructed to proceed forthwith to erect suitable buildings; and to form a system for the conduct of such institution, and to report their proceedings, in the premises, from time to time to the town as they may deem expedient.

Voted, That the Committee appointed by the preceding vote,

be authorized to draw on the town treasurer for such sum, or sums of money, as may from time to time be found necessary, for the carrying into effect the purposes therein expressed; Provided always that the amount of said drafts shall never exceed *Twenty Thousand Dollars.*

Voted, That the Report this day made to the Town on the subject of Pauperism and a House of Industry, be referred to the Committee, appointed by the preceding votes, and that they be instructed to take into consideration the various subjects [327] suggested in it and particularly to inquire into the general state of the poor and also into the number & condition of the out-of-door poor assisted by Overseers within the town, and concerning the operations, effects, modes, and principles of extending relief to the poor, adopted by the various charitable institutions existing in it; and from time to time to report such measures in relation to the whole, or any, of the subjects aforesaid, as they may deem it expedient for the town to adopt.—

Appendix

A.

The Sub-Committee appointed to consider what provisions are made in the nature of a Work House or Bridewell, for vagrants and dissolute persons, and to inquire into the existing establishments of the town in this respect, ask leave to

Report;

That on Saturday afternoon, accompanied by several other members of the general Committee, they waited on the Overseers of the poor, at the Alms House, in Leverett Street, and were conducted thro' that building and the smaller buildings within the enclosure of its yard.

The Sub-Committee found that establishment to be totally distinct from, and by its construction incompatible with the arrangements necessary for a Bridewell or place of correction for vagrant and dissolute persons; and that whenever any such are received in that institution, they are placed nearly in the same situation with those unfortunate and honest members of the community, whom disease or age have rendered incapable of [328] procuring a livelihood — The Sub Committee learned that the buildings formerly belonging to the Town near the Common, consisted of two ranges; one of which was used as an Alms House, for the reception of persons whom it became a duty of charity, to relieve from distress and the other as a Work House, where disorderly and dissolute persons were restrained of their liberty, and compelled to work for their support; and that between these there was a smaller building with grated cells, called a Bridewell, which served as a place for the punishment of such as conducted [themselves] improperly while subject to the discipline of the institution.—

When the new buildings were erected in Leverett Street, the whole sum appropriated to the purpose, was expended in the erection of a house exclusively designed as an Alms House, or place for the reception, of infirm, diseased, aged and children of both sexes; and the apartments were constructed entirely with that view. Of course this large and expensive pile of buildings, which is so honorable to the liberality and benificence of the town, is incapable without great inconvenience, of being appropriated to any other purpose; there is but one room in which any kind of labour can be conveniently performed, and the necessity which is sometimes felt, of converting any part of it to other purposes, is an infringement on the objects for which it was originally designed.

Because, however, there is within the town, no place properly designed as a Work House, and because [**329**] that class of vagabonds who would become the tenants of such a building, are by our laws, under the control, in some degree, of the Overseers of the poor, they have from time to time, been sent to that place; and many have always been there, whom it was anything but charity to support in idleness, and to provide with the comforts of such an institution. The Sub-Committee saw many whom they believed, under proper regulations in a suitable place, might be made to support themselves. —

From the necessity of the case, the Overseers have been obliged to enlarge a building originally designed as a bath house, and use it as a Bridewell; in which they have constructed ——— small cells that are occupied by such disorderly persons as seem most to require to be punished by confinement. But not only does this seem to the Sub-Committee to be objectionable, by depriving the institution of a part of its original accommodation indispensable to cleanliness and health — but because its size and construction is hardly more than is necessary as a restraint to perverse order, without any reference to profitable employment. Confinement in it must be temporary and occasional and the apprehension of its discipline, forms no part of the terrors of such a place to persons abroad.

The Sub-Committee find by a reference to the laws of this country, passed at sundry times by the colonial, provincial and state authorities, that a Work House, or place where idle and dissolute persons, should be compelled to labour for subsistence [**330**] was uniformly a part of the system of police. So early as 1662, authority was given magistrates to arrest "rogues and vagabonds," and confine them in the "house of correction."

In 1699, a provincial act was passed for suppressing and punishing of rogues, vagabonds, common beggars, and other lewd, idle and disorderly persons, and also, for setting the poor to work, by which, among other things, provision is made for erecting and governing a house of correction in every county, and that common drunkards, common night-walkers, pilferers, wanton and and lascivious persons, either in speech or behaviour, com-

mon railers and brawlers, such as neglect their calling, and do not provide for their families, stubborn servants and children, fortune tellers, strollers and beggars, should be confined, and made to work.

In 1735, a special act on this subject, relative to the town of Boston, was passed by the Legislature, and confirmed by the General Court, under the present Constitution, in 1789, which confers certain privileges as to the erection and governing these buildings, suited to the condition of a growing metropolis; and under the provisions of which, many of the powers, in this respect continue to be exercised. — And the necessity of some institution of a similar plan was so apparent, that in the year 1744, the General Court passed an act for all the province, authorising any one town, or any two or more towns, united together, to erect and govern a house of correction, for the restraining of the [331] dissolute poor, and compelling them to labour. The Statute of this Commonwealth passed 26th March, 1788, seems to be imperative on the Courts of Sessions for the several counties to provide houses of correction, and declare that until such are erected, "the common prison in each county, shall be made use of for that purpose." But the common prison in Suffolk County, has long been useless for this object; and the Sub-Committee do not learn that the new one erecting by the County, is planned or adapted to such purpose. — Indeed, the two establishments are so different as to render their union almost impracticable.—

The Sub-Committee refer to these various laws to show that the wisdom of the government has always been decidedly expressed in favor of some establishment for the purpose now contemplated & which is more obviously necessary in a large seaport town than in any other part of the state. The circumstances already stated will show as they think a satisfactory reason why at present and for many years past there has been wanting this necessary part of police within the town of Boston.

The Sub-Committee do not deem it within their province to extend this report by displaying the various facts and arguments which may prove the utility of a Bridewell or house of correction under proper regulations; but they deem their commission discharged by reporting to the general Committee *That There is Not at Present Any Suitable Institution of This Kind Under Direction of the Town* [332] *or County.*

James T. Austin, for the Committee.

(B.)

Schedule of the expense of the Poor of Marblehead from March 1820 to March 1821.

Amount of orders drawn on the Town Treasury	4534.17
Deduct amount rec^{d}. for State Paupers -	575.90

ditto paid by other towns - - - - -	549.31	
ditto paid for Cart, Plough, & Cows - -	98. —	
ditto amount paid on old account - -	517.69	
ditto supplies furnished poor out of the house - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,417.80	3158.70

Expense of the Poor House - - - - - - - - - - $1375.47

In addition to which one thousand days' work were done by eight men on the highway.

(C.)

Report of the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Salem, March 1, 1821.

Amount of orders drawn on the Town Treasury - - - - - - - - - - -	$11268.73	
Deduct Amount received from the State for support of State Poor - - - - -	$5504.84	
ditto amount paid for repairs & improvements - - - - - - - - - - - -	1467.49	6972.33

Net amount for Town Poor - - - - - - - - - - 4296.40

In the above sum of $4.296.40, are included all supplies to poor persons not inhabitants of the Alms House, to paupers belonging to other towns, and the amount paid the gaoler for the board of poor persons in gaol, including inhabitants of Salem, State poor, and persons belonging to other towns. A part of the expense thus incurred for other towns, is now [333] due to the Town of Salem.—Value of supplies granted to poor persons not inhabitants of the Alms House, from March 1st 1820, to March 1st 1821, including State Paupers, and persons belonging to other towns, estimated at $1090.87.

Number of Paupers in the Alms House Mar. 1, 1820 - -	337
Entered during the year ending March 1, 1821 - - - -	369
	706
Discharged and died during the year - - - - - - - -	341
Whole number in the Alms House, March 1, 1821 - - -	365
Whole number in the Alms House, March 1, 1820 - - -	337
Whole number in the Alms House, March 1, 1819 - - -	273
Whole number in the Alms House, March 1, 1818 - - -	292

The average number of Paupers in the old Work House for the last twenty four years the poor resided there, viz. from 1793 to 1816, was 120.—

Account of the Expenditure of the Town for the support of the Poor for the last ten years.—

	Amt. of orders drawn.	All Credits to be deducted.	Net Amt. for support of Town Poor.—
Year 1811	$9659.83	$2404.75	$7255.08
1812	10237.06	2679.38	7557.68
1813	13805.86	2850.03	10955.83
1814	15795.96	3016.75	12779.21
1815	11121.52	3622.28	7499.24
1816	13090.67	5442.62	7646.05
1817	16231.44	6585.44	9646.
1818	15886.91	6724.14	9162.77
1819	15219.83	8212.36	7007.47
1820	11268.73	6972.33	4296.40

D.

Alms House, April 24th. 1821

Sir,

By direction of the Board of Overseers of the [334] Poor the following statement is transmitted in answer to your last inquiry.—

I am, Sir, your very humble
Servant, Redford Webster.

To the Chairman of the Committee of the Town on the subject of a House of Industry, &c.

Drafts on Town Treasurer - - - - - - - - -	26,374.12
Received of Firewards for forfeiture of Gunpowder	149.30
" for sales Oakum - - - - - - - - -	1312.83
" for rent of Wharf - - - - - - - - -	527.00
" this year balances of accounts settled with other towns and persons, much of which had been standing for several years - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3949.16
Amount received from the State for - - - - -	$32,312.41
the support of State Poor - - - - - - - - -	12,377.88
Net amount for Town Poor - - - - - - - - -	$19,934.53
Of the above sum there were paid out of the house — for paupers in gaol — board of insane poor in the Asylum and at other places — allowance to poor persons and families without the house — and disbursments of the Overseers in the wards, &c, &c - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	$14433.70

Hon. Josiah Quincy, Joseph Lovering, James Savage, Henry J. Oliver, Francis Welch, Ebenezer Frances, Thomas Howe, Wm. Thurston, Abram Babcock, Samuel A. Wells, James T. Austin, Benja. Rich & Joseph Woodward Esqrs., were nominated from the chair, and appointed a Committee, in conformity to the second vote.—

The Town Meeting was then dissolved.—

Attest Thomas Clark, Town Clerk.

[335.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, holden at Faueuil Hall, on Monday the 14th. day of May A.D. 1821. 10 o'clock A.M.—

Prayer by Rev. Doct. Baldwin.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting, read.—

Paragraph of the Constitution relative to the choice of Representatives — read —

A communication was received from the Assessors stating "that they have not yet completed the taking the Polls and Estates in the Town of Boston; they find in the Wards where they have already been, that the number does not materially differ from the last year; they therefore, are of opinion that the whole number will exceed Ten thousand Polls, the present year, which will entitle the Town to more than forty five Representatives."—

A motion was made, and seconded, to choose twenty five persons to represent the Town in the General Court, the year ensuing; The motion being put by the Chairman of the Selectmen, it passed unanimously in the affirmative.—

Voted, That the Poll shall be closed at 1 o'clock

[336.] The Chairman of the Selectmen requested the Inhabitants to prepare and bring in their votes for twenty five persons, to represent the Town in the General Court the year ensuing.

At the close of the Poll, it appeared that the whole number of Votes was - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1610

Necessary to make a choice - - - - - - - - - - - 806

The following Gentlemen had the number of votes set against their respective names, and were declared to be duly elected Representatives for the ensuing year. — viz.

Hon. Josiah Quincy - -	1094	Nathan Appleton - -	1074
" William Prescott -	1077	Lynde Walter - - -	1564
" Peter C. Brooks -	1071	Eliphalet Williams - -	1483
" Thomas H. Perkins	1081	John Cotton - - - -	988
Benjamin Russell Esq. - - - -	1070	Jonathan Phillips - -	981
		Francis C. Gray - - -	1476

James Savage - -	1085	[337] Theodore Lyman Jr. - - - - -	980
William Tudor -	1089	Francis J. Oliver - -	979
Gedney King - -	1088	George W. Otis - - -	986
Heman Lincoln -	1578	Henry Bass - - - -	882
Edmund Winchester	1579	Benjamin West - - -	1276
Nathan Hale - -	1088	William Shimmin - -	858
Joseph Lovering -	1080		
Enoch Silsby - -	1090		

The names of persons voted for, who did not obtain a majority of votes.—viz —

Lewis Tappan 496, George Sullivan 506, David W. Child 501, Edw. Cruft 491, Jeremiah Gore 488, Robt. Fennelly 506, David Ellis 485, Sam. H. Walley 509, Isaac Stevens 502, Sam^{l}. Hichborn Jr. 494, Ja^{s}. Loring 505, S. P. Tarbell 491, Thomas Dean 499, Geo. W. Coffin 505, Edm^{d}. Kimball 500, Barzillia Homes 511, Eleazer Howard 495, Cyrus Alger 499, A. P. Cleveland 488.— Scattering viz. Sam^{l}. L. Knapp 9, James T. Austin 8, Sam^{l}. A. Wells 7, H. Dearborn 6, H. Orne 6, Rev. Thomas Baldwin 5.— S. Billings 5, W^{m}. Gray 5, Doct W^{m}. Ingalls 6, W^{m}. Gale 5, John Howe 2, David Henshaw 4, Charles Hood 4, Henry N. Rogers 2, W. D. Sohier 2, W^{m}. Homer 2, Ab. Wild 2, Thomas Thaxter 2, Jn^{o}. Tappan 3, G. Bond 2, S. Hooper 2, A. Peabody 2, D. Messinger 3, R. D. Tucker 3, Sam^{l}. Hubbard 4, Jos. Haven 2, W^{m}. Dehon 2, Enoch Bartlett 2, Thomas Cordis 2, Sam^{l}. Fales 2, Tho^{s}. Wells 2, T. K. Thomas 2, John Fox 2, Cha^{s}. Winslow 2, Ja^{s}. Read 2, W^{m}. Sturgis 3, Sam^{l}. Adams 3, John Lepean 2, D. Wild 2, Luke Eastman 2, Lem^{l}. Shaw 2, W^{m}. Wyman 2, J. Sears 3, Joshua Davis 2, Enos Cobb 2, Jn^{o}. Parker 2, Jon^{a}. Jewett 2, Thomas Jackson 3, Geo. Hallet 3, Jon^{a}. Mason 4, Benj^{a}. Smith 2, D. Sharp 3, P. Dean 4, T. Lewis 3, D. Baxter 3.—T. Badger 2, R. Sturgis 3, A. Dunlap 4, W. Donnison 3.— [338] J. Stearns 2, Abram Babcock 2, John Odin 2, Thomas Holt 2, Lewis Lerow 2, W^{m}. Sullivan 2, & H. Atkins, J. Winslow, J. Davis, J. W. Revere, B. Whitman, G. Fairbanks, S. Fairbanks, Jon^{a}. Loring, T. Dennie, W. H. Sumner, H. Codman, Benj^{a}. Winslow, S. H. Parker, Benj^{a}. Loring, M. Brimmer, H. G. Otis Jr. Ab. Wood, Azor Orne, N. M. Dearborn, Jo^{s}. Brazer, Asa Whitney, Aaron Hill, Ed. Jones, A. Binney, T. L. Winthrop, H. Fuller, Lot Wheelright, G. J. Homer, Asher Adams, J. Putnam, D. Tuttle, W^{m}. Little, Ja^{s}. Lloyd, Jn^{o}. Howe, Jn^{o}. Bellows, H. L. Cushman, S. A. Shed, Ter. Wakefield, A. O. Barton, Josh. Gray, Seth Copeland, Jn^{o}. Drayton, Ch^{s}. M. Domett, Ben. Porter, Eben White, Jer. Bond, Ed. Quincy, N. P. Russell, Jos. P. Bradstreet, Horace H. Goodman, F. Tufts, R. B. Callender, W^{m}. Plimpton, Jacob Peabody, Fra^{s}. Welch, James Davis, Jon^{a}. Carleton, Geo. J. Homer, Nat. Willis, Jos. Jones, H. J. Oliver, Jn^{o}. C. Procter, Ab. Moore, N. Dearborn, James Brewer, Edw. Kendall, J. H. Wheeler, Jon^{a}. Whitney, D. Sears, Jon^{a}. Thaxter, Harry Oliver, Henry Emmons,

Jonas Bass, Joseph Coolidge, Adam Bent, Cyrus Cyecy, Otis Everett, Jos. Sewall, C. P. Curtis, W^m^. J. Spooner, Asa Whitney, one each.—

The Meeting was then Dissolved.
Attest Thomas Clark, Town Clerk.

[**339.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to vote in town affairs, in Faneuil Hall on Monday the 28^th^ day of May A.D. 1821.—

The Warrant for calling the Meeting being read.—

Stephen Codman, was chosen Moderator.—

The Town Clerk being absent by reason of sickness, it was voted, that a Town Clerk pro. tem. be chosen.

Voted, That he be chosen by nomination, and that the nomination proceed from the chair. Whereupon, Samuel A. Wells, was nominated, and chosen, and sworn to the faithful performance of the duties of the office, the Oath being administered by the chairman of the Selectmen, in open town meeting.—

The Report of the Committee of Finance was then read.—
The Chairman of the Selectmen stated to the Town, that since the report of the Committee of Finance had been made out, he had been informed by the Chairman of the Board of Overseers of the poor that they should not require so large an amount as they had stated to be necessary, to the Committee of Finance, by five thousand dollars, therefore the amount required of the town would be five thousand dollars less than the amount stated in the report; it was then moved, that the sum of One hundred and thirty four thousand [**340**] five hundred Dollars be raised, and that Two thousand five hundred Dollars be considered as included in that sum for the purpose of lighting the Lamps during the Summer, which after debate passed in the negative — Moved and Voted, That the report of the Committee of Finance be amended, by reducing the amount required by the Overseers of the Poor, Five thousand Dollars, and that the sum of One hundred and thirty two thousand dollars be raised to pay the current expenses of the Town the ensuing year.—

Moved: That upon the representation of the doings and proceedings of Turner Phillips, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes of the Town of Boston, the preceding year: *Voted:* That the Town of Boston approve the conduct of said Turner Phillips in the said Offices of Treasurer and Collector, and that he has faithfully and

fully as was in his power completed the execution of his duty in said Offices to which he had been appointed as aforesaid and that he be excused from all delinquency or default, in not having effected a full and complete settlement of Taxes by him to have been received or collected according to law.

Voted, That the Town Treasurer and Collector be authorized to borrow with the approbation of the Committee of Finance, such sum of money, as shall be found necessary for the service of the Town the ensuing year.—

Voted, That there be allowed and paid, [**341**] unto Thomas Dawes, the sum of Seven hundred and fifty Dollars for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the present year.—

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark, Town Clerk, the sum of One thousand dollars, for his Salary the present year.—

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto each of the permanent Assessors, the sum of One thousand dollars as their salary for the present year.—

Voted, That the Salary of the Town Treasurer and Collector be referred to the adjournment of this meeting.—

Voted, That there be allowed and paid unto the chairman of the board of Selectmen the sum of twelve hundred dollars per year, as the Salary for services in that office.—

The Petition of John R. Child and others requesting that the Selectmen may be authorized to appoint more than one Sealer of Weights and Measures, should they deem it expedient, whereupon *Voted*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

On the Petition of William Andrews and others praying that the town would make additional allowance, to the Pound Keeper and Field Driver at South Boston, beyond the fees established by law.

[**342.**] It was *Voted;* That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.—

On the Petition of Josiah Jones and others, praying that the Town would petition the Legislature, to alter or repeal the law restricting the inhabitants from erecting buildings of wood within the town to ten feet: it was *Voted:* That the petition be referred to a Committee, consisting of one from each Ward, in conjunction with the Moderator of this meeting, who is to be chairman of the Committee. Voted: That the said Committee be selected, by a committee of Nomination, and that the three first signers of the petition, if present, be chosen.

Voted: That three persons in addition be nominated from the the chair: whereupon

of the Petitioners { William W. Blake, Seth Copeland, David C. Jacobs

Nominated by the Moderator { Francis J. Oliver, James Reed, Joseph Callender,

were selected and who retired, and reported the following gentlemen for Committee, all of whom were accepted by the town.

Ward N°. 1. William Harris [343] 7. Samuel A. Wells
2. Redford Webster 8. Asa Richardson
3. Enoch Silsbee 9. Leach Harris
4. Nathaniel Alley 10. Joseph P. Bradlee
5. Joseph Coolidge 11. Thomas Jackson
6. Michael Roulstone 12. Joshua Davis

and the said Committee to report at the adjournment.

On motion made and seconded: it was Voted, that when any vacancy occurs in the Committee appointed to locate and build an House of Industry, by death, resignation, or otherwise, that the remaining members of the Committee be authorized to fill such vacancy.

On the Petition of Benjamin French and others for the removal of Hackney Coaches from the streets — it was voted to refer it to a Committee of three, whereupon,

Samuel Adams
Heman Fay
Samuel L. Knapp,

were chosen for that purpose.—

On the Petition of Lewis Tappan and others requesting the Town to consider the expediency of assessing the Town and County Taxes, or either of them at some season of the year, other than the first day of May.—

Whereupon — Voted, That the Assessors be directed to take the valuation of personal property for the Town and County taxes on the first [344] Tuesday of February annually.

John Cleasby was nominated and chosen a Hog Reeve and Field Driver [for] the year ensuing.

On the Petition of Joseph Willett and others for two additional Surveyors of Lumber. Voted; that it is inexpedient to appoint any additional Surveyors of Lumber.—

Voted: That this meeting be now adjourned to Wednesday next at 9 o'clock A.M.—

Wednesday June 6th A.D. 1821.—
Met according to adjournment. —

The report of the Committee of Finance, was read authorizing the Committee to allow the Town Treasurer and Collector, a sum not exceeding *Twenty five hundred* Dollars. — which was accepted, and — *Voted:* The Committee of Finance be authorized to allow the Town Treasurer and Collector, such Salary as they think proper not exceeding twenty five hundred dollars, for his services in those offices the ensuing year.—

The Committee of Finance having full power to diminish this sum as much as they shall judge expedient.

The report of the Committee relative to Hacks, was read — and unanimously accepted.—

[**345.**] The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Benjamin French and others, ask leave to Report. —

That they have attended to the duty assigned them, and find on examination that the standing of some Hackney Coaches in the Streets, is an inconvenience, to the Public, but there are some persons who keep them so situated, that it would be a hardship for them to be now driven from the Street. The power of regulation being now vested in the Selectmen, your Committee believe it is in the most judicious hands that it could any where be lodged. But your Committee would venture to recommend, that after three months from this date, all Hackney Coaches should be ordered from the Street, excepting in such particular Cases as the Selectmen should think proper to exempt. —

Samuel Adams
Heman Fay
June 6th 1821. — Samuel L. Knapp.

The Report of the Committee on the subject of Buildings of Wood, as expressed in the petition of Josiah Jones and others, was read, and accepted by a large majority. —

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Josiah Jones and others, to take into consideration the expediency of Petitioning the Legislature to alter or repeal the Law prohibiting the erection of Wooden buildings within the Town [**346**] more than ten feet high, have attended to the subject with all the diligence and care which the importance of the subject claims. —

The Committee are fully impressed, with the great advantage which the Town has experienced by the effects of the existing Law, which has been in operation since the year 1803. by which

means a great increase of Brick and Stone Walls have been erected, and the security of the town thereby has been much increased; and therefore it is the opinion of the Committee, that the existing Law may now be modified without any essential injury; and inasmuch as it appears to be the general wish so to modify the Law, as to meet the wants and means of a large portion of respectable citizens, who have not the ability to erect buildings entirely of Brick or Stone; and as they are satisfied that dwelling houses not exceeding ten feet high, are injurious to the health of those who reside in them, as well as to the Inhabitants generally. The Committee therefore recommend to the town, to signify its desire that the Legislature should be requested so far to modify the existing Law, as that in future wooden Buildings may be erected, which are to be used for dwelling houses exclusively, which shall not exceed eighteen feet from the lowest part of the sill, to the upper part of the plate, and a pitched roof over the same not exceeding six feet high, from the plate to the highest point of the roof, provided that such roof shall be entirely covered with slate & shall not have any Windows on [347] the sloping part of the said roof, but that in each end a Window may be placed — And further that where there are two or more tenements joined, there shall be a brick wall between, of at least twelve inches in thickness, and extend at least two feet above the highest point of the Roof and to be covered with a stone capping. And also that where the ends or sides of any such building to be erected, shall be situated within fifteen feet of any other buildings of Wood, such end or side shall be of brick or stone, the wall of which, shall be of at least twelve inches in thickness, and extend at least two feet above the highest point of the Roof, and be capped with Stone.

All which is respectfully submitted

By order of the Committee

Stephen Codman, Chairman

June 6. 1821. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be requested to present a petition to the Legislature in behalf of the Town to obtain a modification of the Law agreeable to the preceding vote. —

Voted, That an Assistant Town Clerk be selected whose duty it shall be to act, as such, in all cases, when the Town Clerk, either from death, sickness or other cause shall be unable to perform the duties of that office.

Voted, That Mr. Charles Hammatt, be selected for that purpose.

[348.] Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are authorized to make such compensation to the Assistant Town Clerk as they may think proper and expedient. —

Voted, To reconsider the vote passed at the last Meeting, on the petition of Joseph Willett and others respecting two additional Surveyors of Lumber.

Voted, That the further consideration of this subject be postponed 'till next March Meeting. —

Moved, That the Vote accepting the Report of the Committee of Finance, be reconsidered — which passed in the *affirmative.*

Moved, That the further consideration of the subject be indefinitely postponed — which was *negatived* —

Voted, That the Report of the Committee of Finance be recommitted to the same Committee for revision, and that they Report at the adjournment. —

Voted, That when this Meeting adjourns it adjourn to next Monday week, — then to meet in this place at 9 o'clock A.M.

The meeting was then adjourned —

[**349.**] Monday June 18th 1821 — Met according to adjournment. —

The question having been asked, "why the Taxes assessed exceeded the Taxes voted by the Town." Moved, that a Committee be raised to wait on the Assessors and request their attendance at the Meeting. The Police Officer, was directed to attend to that duty.

Moved, To reconsider the vote authorizing the Selectmen to make such compensation to the Assistant Town Clerk, as they may think proper and expedient — which was negatived —

The Committee of Finance made a report, and after some debate, it was voted that the subject subside for the present.

A long debate on the subject of the Town and County Treasurers, being united, then ensued; and the Records of the Convention, authorized to choose County Treasurer, and also the Records of the Convention authorized to choose the Town Treasurer and Collector having been read, it was *Moved*, that the whole subject subside.— which was negatived — It was then *Voted*, *Unanimously* that the subject be referred to the Committee of Finance, with directions to use all the means in their power, to unite the two Offices in one person.—

The Assessors having attended and made [**350**] some explanations.— It was *Voted*, *unanimously*, To instruct the Assessors to assess, precisely the amount of Taxes, levied by the State, County and Town and to make no addition of the five per Cent, as allowed by Law the present year.—

The Report of the Committee of Finance was again taken up, and *Voted*, that the subject be postponed untill the adjournment, and that the Report be printed in the meantime and distributed to the Inhabitants.

After some discussion of the subject of lighting the Lamps all the year, it was *Voted*, that the subject subside.—

Voted, That when this meeting does adjourn, it shall be to this day fortnight, then to meet in this place, at 10 o'clock A.M.

Voted, That this Meeting do now adjourn.

Attest Charles Hammatt,
Assistant Town Clerk.

[**351.**] Monday July 2nd 1821 — Met according to adjournment.—

The Report of the Committee of Finance which was made at the last meeting and ordered to be printed, was taken up.— viz.—

Ninth annual Report of the Committee of Finance.—

N°. 1.

The amount of Taxes assessed in 1820. were as follows — viz —	
State Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	24,117.02
Town & County Tax - - - - - - - - - - -	141,111.28
	$165,228.30
Amount received by the Treasurer on account of said Taxes - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	154,519.90
Amount of abatement of Taxes agreeable to Certificates of Assessors - - - - - - - - - -	6,413.10
Balance uncollected - - - - - - - - - - -	4,295.30
	165228.30

Amount received by the Treasurer on account of uncollected Taxes of preceding years and outstanding at the time the late Treasurers account was settled - - - - - - - - - - -	1815	109.80
	1817	27.50
	1818	106.96
	1819	1145.40
		1,389.66
Amount received for 1820 - - - - - - - - -		154,519.90
Whole amount received by the Treasurer from August 1820, to May 1821 - - - - - - - -		155,909.56

Boston May 14, 1821 — Errors Excepted — Turner Phillips, Town Treasurer.—

[352.] N°. 2.

The Town of Boston in Account Current with Andrew Sigourney Treasurer - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Dr.

1820				
May	22	To amount due on Selectmen's & Overseer's drafts - -	226.24	
		To amount of Note due the Selectmen - - - - - -	1230.00	
				1456.24
June	2d.	To do Selectmen's d'fts of the 1st instant - - - -	9554.18	
	8	To do Overseer's ditto of the 7th do - - - - -	2388.40	
	13	To do Board of Health ditto of the 12th do - - -	1000.—	
July	3	To do Selectmen's ditto of the 1st do - - - - - -	5010.30	
	6	To do Overseer's ditto of the 5th do - - - - -	2373.49	
				20326.37
Aug	5	To do ditto ditto of the 5th do	972.25	
		To do Selectmen's ditto of the 5th - - - - - - -	4511.75	
		To do Jabez Hunting's Note received for rent - -	40.00	
		To do Thomas Badger's ditto	22.—	
		To Counterfeit Bill received for Taxes - - - -	3.—	
				5549.—
				27331.61
		To balance due the Town to new Account - - - - - - - - - - -		33725.54
				61057.15

The Town of Boston in account with Andrew Sigourney, Treasurer - Cr.

1820					
May	22	By Balance due the Town as per accounts of this date - - - - - - -			45170.76
June	3	" Cash rec'd of Jacob Tidd Jr for his Note - -		378.—	
		" do of do 12 months interest on $1512 -		90.72	
	30	" do for Rent of land on the Neck - - - -		12.—	
		" do for Rent of land on Mill Pond - - -		20.—	
		" do for Rent of House in Union Street -		12.—	
		" do for Rent of Stall under Faneuil Hall		39.—	
		" do for Rent of Shops & Offices in Old State House - - -		217.50	
					769.22
		car[d]. for[d]. - - - - - -			45939.98
[353.]		By Amount brought forward - - -			45939,98
July	15	By Cash of the State Treasurer for maintenance of State Paupers to June 1st - - - - - - - -		7313.32	
	31	By do for rent of land on the Neck - - - - - -		40.—	
		By do for rent of Hay Scales		170.87	
		By do for rent of Shops & Offices in old State House - - - - -		500.83	
		By do for rent of Stall & Cellars under Faneuil Hall		886.50	
Aug.	5	By do for 3 months rent of Cellars N° 12 & 13 Old State House - - -		150.—	
		By do for 3 months of Stalls &c in the Market - -		2189.18	
		By do for 3 months Stall N°. 17 - - - - - - -		37.—	
		By do for 3 months Offices N°. 3 & 6 Old State House - - - - -		100.—	
Aug.	5	By do 12 do Sedge Lands -		5.—	
		By do Fines for breach of Laws - - - - - - -		2.—	

By Amount of Selectmen's & Overseers drafts unpaid -		261.97	
By Cash received for Taxes			
1817 - - -	25.80		
1816 - - -	77.30		
1818 - - -	108.62		
1819 - - -	2018.78	2230.50	13887.17
By Amount of Note due to Selectmen of Boston - - - - - - -			1230.—
			$61,057.15
Aug. 5 By Balance due the Town as per Contra,			33.725.54

Boston Sept. 2. 1820. Errors Excepted —
Elizabeth Sigourney, Administratrix
By her Attorney, Joel Stone.

[354.] N°. 3.

The Town of Boston in account Current with Turner Phillips, Treasurer & Collector - - - - - - - - - - - - - Dr.

1820			
Augt. 6	To Cash paid balance of Selectmen's and Overseer's Drafts - - - - - - - -		261.97
	To Joseph Russells' Note given as Town Treasurer to the Selectmen of Boston, dated Decr. 1. 1793 - - - - - - -		1230.—
1821			
March 22	To Cash paid Mrs. Elizabeth Sigourney for my Note given as Treasurer, dated September 4th 1820 - - - - - - -		33725.54
April	To Amount of Commonwealth Tax for 1820 - - - -	21,749.33	
	To ditto County of Suffolk Tax for 1820 - - - -	29,768.40	
			51517.73
May	To balance of Profit & Loss acct. as pr. account - - - - - - - - - - - -		924.05
	To amount of the Selectmen's Drafts from Sepr. 1. 1820, to Apl. 21, 1821 inclusive,	74,800.59	
	To amount of the Overseer's d'fts from Sepr. 6. 1820 to May 2d. 1821 inclusive -	18,784.77	
	To amount of the Board of Health's drafts from August 21. 1820 to Apr. 21st. 1821, inclusive - - -	7,500.00	
			101,085.36

	To the following Bonds & Notes remaining unpaid		
	Ward N. Boylston's Bond,	10,000.00	
	Jacob Tidd's three notes,	1,134.—	
	John Hancock's - - -	930.—	
	Rea & Wrights - - -	300.—	
	John Stuarts - - - -	125.—	
	Isaac Rand Jr.'s - - -	46.20	
	J & A Hunting's - - -	40.—	
	William Tukesbury's - -	390.92	
	Jabez Hunting's - - -	40.—	
			13,006.12
May 14	To Balance due the Town to New account - - - - - - - - - - - -		84,874.53
			$286,625.30

[**355.**] The Town of Boston in Account Current with Turner Phillips, Treasurer & Collector - - - - - - - - - Cr.

1820

Sept. 2d.	By the following Bond & Notes recd. this day of the Administratrix of the Estate of Andrew Sigourney Esq. deceased, late Treasurer and Collector — viz.		
	By Ward N. Boylston's Bond	10,000.00	
	" Jacob Tidd Jrs 3 Notes $378 each - - - -	1134.—	
	" John Hancock's - - -	930.—	
	" Joseph Rowe's - - -	535.50	
	" Rea & Wrights - - -	500.—	
	" John Stuart's - - - -	125.—	
	" Isaac Rand's Jr - - -	46.20	
	" Jabez & Asa Hunting's -	40.—	
	" William Tukesbury's - -	17.55	
	" Jabez Hunting's - - -	40.00	
	" Thomas Badger's - - -	22.00	
			13390.25
Sept 4	By Cash recd. of Mrs. Elizabeth Sigourney for my Note as Treasurer — viz - - - - - - -		
	Boston Money - - - -	7313.32	
	Current Money - - -	25868.22	
	Bills of the Hollowell & Augusta, Wiscassett & Castine Banks - - -	544.00	
			33725.54

Sept	30	By Cash rec^{d}. of the Police Officer for Fines collected by him for breaches of Town Laws - - - - -	3.00	
Oct	18	By Cash rec^{d} of S Gorham Esq for - - - - - - -	16.50	
1821.				
Feby	7	By Cash rec^{d}. of W^{m} Donnison Esq. for D^{o}. - - - - -	2.00	
		" Cash rec^{d}. for Militia Exempts - - - - - -	252.00	273.50
		car^{d}. over -		$47389.29

1821.

[356.] March	10	By Amount brought forward		$47389.29
March	10	By Cash rec^{d}. of the State Treasurer for the maintenance of State Paupers to Dec^{r}. 1. 1820 - - - - - - - - -		5064.56
	22	" Cash received of Mrs. Elizabeth Sigourney, administratrix on the Estate of Andrew Sigourney Esq^{r}. deceased, for the balance due from him as Treasurer & Collector of the Town of Boston, as per adjustment of his account by the Sub-Committee of the Committee of Finance - - -		33725.54
May		By Cash received for Licenses for Hackney Carriages - -		62.—
		By Cash received for Rent of Stalls & Cellars under Faneuil Hall - - - - - -	3037.50	
		By ditto of the Clerk of the Market for Rents rec^{d}. by him for Meat & Vegetable Stalls, &c from the 1st of Novem. 1820, to 1st May 1821 - - - - - - -	6767.01	
		By ditto for Rent of Shops, Offices & Cellars in Old State House - - - - -	2902.92	
		By ditto for Rent for Lands on the Neck - - - - -	179.70	
		" ditto for one years rent of Land or Flats northwesterly from the end of the Rope Walks N^{o}. 1 & 2 due 24th December 1820 - - - -	47.20	

By ditto of Jos. N. Howe & Amos Binney for 2 year's rent of Land or Flats at the foot of Rope Walks N°. 5 due 24th December 1820 -	13.20	
		12947.53
carr^{d}. forward -		$99188.92
[257.] May By Amount brought forward - - - - - -		$99188.92
By Cash rec^{d}. for Rent of Land on Prince & Merrimack Streets - - - - - - -	112.00	
By ditto for ditto of Fish Stall on north Street - - - -	12.00	
By ditto for d°. of House on Union S^{t}. - - - - - -	36.00	
By ditto for d°. of Deer Island	400.—	
By ditto for proceeds of Hay Scales - - - - - - -	360.98	
		920.98
By Balance of Interest Account per Account - - - - - - - - - -		1495.53
By Amount due the Commonwealth on Tax of 1820 - - - - - - - -		21749.33
By bal^{ce} due the County of Suffolk on ditto - - - - - - - - - -		5532.10
By balance due on Selectmen's & Overseer's drafts - - - - - - -		586.38
By Cash rec^{d}. for Taxes of 1815. 1817 1818. 1819. 1820 - - - - - - -		155909.56
" Cash rec^{d}. for an old Stove and Lighting a Lamp - - - - - - - -		12.50
By Treasurer Russells Note to Selectmen of Boston - - - - - - - -		1230.00
Dollars -		286,625.30

Boston May 14. 1821. Errors Excepted
Turner Phillips,
Town Treasurer and Collector.—

Boston May 15. 1821. The Subscribers appointed by the Town of Boston, on the 12th day of March last to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer and Collector, have attended to the duty assigned them, and find the accounts right cast and well vouched, and that there results a balance in favour [358] of the Town of eighty four thousand eight hundred seventy four Dollars fifty three cents, of which sum they find eighty two Thousand six hundred sixty one dollars, eighty four cents, now deposited in the

Manufacturers & Mechanic's Bank to the Credit of "Turner Phillips, Treasurer and Collector of the Town of Boston."—

Stephen Codman
Francis J. Oliver } Auditors.—
Robert G. Shaw

N°. 4.

Profit and Loss - - - - - Dr.

1820				
Sept. 15	To loss on the undermentioned Bills received of the Administratrix on the Estate of the late Treasurer Andrew Sigourney, Esq. deceased, & sold this day, conformably to the advice of the Sub-Committee of the Committee of Finance: viz:			
	Castine Bank $154 at 30 p Ct. discount - - - - - - -		46.20	
	Halls. Augusta $181 at 42 p Ct. discount - - - -		76.02	
	Wiscassett $209 at 45 p Ct. discount - - - - - - -		94.05	
				216.27
	To premium on $15,351 Boston Money deposited this month			135.51
Novem.	To premium on 17,700 Boston Money deposited this month			173.50
Decem.	To premium on 77,000 Boston Money deposited this month			738.96
1821				
January	To premium on 12,807 Boston Money deposited this month			124.97
May	To premium on 352. Boston Money deposited this month			3.52
				$1392.73

There is now deposited in the Manufacturers & Mechanics Bank $82,661; the premium on which at seven eights per Cent will Amount to $723.28.—

[359.] Profit and Loss - - - - - Cr.

1820							
Sept.	By premium on $8003 drawn this Month						70.54
Octo.	By - ditto	8277	"	"	do		73.04
Nov.	By - ditto	649	"	"	do		5.72
1821.							
Jan'y	By - ditto	3000	"	"	do		26.25
Feb'y	By - ditto	4882	"	"	do		44.82

Mar.	By - ditto	17300 drawn this do	157.75
April	By - ditto	6150 " " do	53.81
May	By - ditto	4200 " " do	36.75
" 14.	By balance to the debit of the Town of Boston, in account current - - - -		924.05
			$1392.73

Boston, May 14. 1821. Errors Excepted
Turner Phillips, Town Treasurer

N°. 5.

Interest Account - - - - Dr.

1821		
Jan'y 4.	To Cash paid the Selectmen of Boston, for one year's interest on Treasurer Russell's Note of $1230.— - - -	73.80
May 14	To balance carried to the credit of the Town in account current - - - -	1495.53
		$1569.33

Cr.

1820		
Octo. 1.	By Cash received of the Manufacturers and Mechanic's Bank for interest on the amount deposited in that Bank during the Month of September - -	29.32
Novem.	By ditto for the Month of October - -	14.38
Decem.	By ditto " " do " November -	24.47
1821.		
Jan'y	By ditto " " do " December -	181.77
	Amt carried over	$249.94
1821		
[360.]	By Amount brot. forward - - - - -	249.94
February	By Interest for the Month of January -	253.19
March	By ditto " " do " February -	244.46
April	By ditto " " do " March - -	248.40
May 1.	By ditto " " do " April - -	215.11
	By Cash recd. for Interest on T. Badger's Note - - - - - - - - - - - -	1.15
	By Cash recd. for Interest on Rea & Wrights Note - - - - - - - - -	109.71
May 1.	By Cash recd. for Interest on Joseph Rowe's Note - - - - - - - - -	127.81
	By Cash recd. for Interest on Wm. Tukesbury's Note - - - - - - - - -	119.56
		$1569.33

Boston May 14. 1821. Errors Excepted
Turner Phillips, Town Treasurer

N°. 6.

Dr. Boylston Town Schools in Account Current with the Town of Boston. Cr.

1821		1820	
May	To Amount to new Account	8202.38	May 22 By Balance as pr. Account of this date,	7738.10
			By interest on do 1 year	464.28
		8202.38		8202.38

Boston May 14. 1821 Errors Excepted

Turner Phillips, Town Treasurer.

N°. 7.

Statement of the Debts & Credits of the Town of Boston, May 14. 1821.

Town of Boston - - Dr.

1821.		
May	To Commonwealth of Massachusetts -	21749.33
	" County of Suffolk - - - - - -	5532.10
	" Selectmen of Boston - - - - -	1230.—
	" Selectmens Drafts - - - - - -	258.39
	" Overseers ditto - - - - - - -	327.99
	carrd. forward -	$29097,81
[361.]	To Amount brought forward - - - -	$29097 81
	" Boylston Town Schools - - - -	8202 38
	" Unliquidated Accounts, estimated -	3000 —
		40300.19
	Balance in favor of the Town - -	64080.46
		$104,380.65

Town of Boston Cr.

1821			
May	By Ward N. Boylston's Bond - - -		10.000.
	" Jacob Tidd's three Notes - - - -		1134.
	" John Hancock's	do - - - -	930.
	" John Stuart's	do - - - -	125.
	" Rea & Wrights	do - - - -	300.
	" Isaac Rand Jr's	do - - - -	46.20

By J & A Hunting's do - - - - -	40.—
" Jabez Huntings do - - - - -	40.—
" W^m. Tukesbury's do - - - - -	390.92
" Commonwealth of Massachusetts estimated - - - - - - - - -	5000.
" Uncollected Taxes estimated to produce - - - - - - - - - -	1500.
" Cash in the Treasury - - - - -	84874.53
	$104380.65

Boston May 14. 1821 — Errors Excepted
Turner Phillips, Town Treasurer

N°. 8.

Statement of Salaries, annually paid to Town Officers

Chairman of the Selectmen - - - - - - - - -	$1200
Three Assessors $1000 each - - - - - - - -	3000
Assistant to ditto - - - - - - - - - -	100
Treasurer's - - - - - - - - - - - -	2500
car^d. forward -	$6800 —
[**362.**] Amount brought forward - - - - -	$6800 —
Town Clerk's - - - - - - - - - - - -	1000 —
Judge of Municipal court - - - - - - - - -	750 —
Police Officer - - - - - - - - - - - -	900 —
Clerk of the Market - - - - - - - - - -	800 —
Secretary to the Firewards - - - - - - - -	200 —
Messenger to ditto - - - - - - - - - -	30 —
Messenger to Selectmen - - - - - - - - -	365 —
	10845 —
School Master & Usher - - - - - - - - -	25430.55
Primary Schools - - - - - - - - - - -	8500.—
Annual Amount of Salaries - - - - - - -	$44775.55
$\frac{1}{6}^{th}$ of which became due on the first day of May -	7462.59
Amount due the Treasurer for last year - - - -	2083.—
Assistant Town Clerk - - - - - - - - -	400.—
	$9945.59

N°. 9

Statement exhibiting the amount of Debts due from the Town of Boston; the amount which will accrue for the expenditures the year ensuing; the amount to be received from the various sources of Revenue enumerated, and the amount to be assessed upon the Inhabitants to pay the balance.

Amount due from the Town for State Tax of 1820 unpaid		21749.33
D°. D°. County Tax D°.		5532 10
D°. on Selectmen's drafts D°.		258 39
D°. on Overseers Drafts D°.		327 99
Probable Balance due on account of School House now building in Derne S^{t}.		5000 —
		$32867 81
[363.] Amount brought up		32867.81
Contemplated alterations of North Schools		3202.38
Estimated amount of unliquidated Accounts		3000.—
Amount of Treasurer Russells Note, due to the fund of Joanna Brooker & to be paid the ensuing year		1230.—
		40300.19
Amount due on account of Salaries to School Masters and other Town officers on the first of May 1821 by Statements N°. 8		9945.59
Amount required by the Selectmen for the year ensuing	84,700	
D°. by the School Committee	36,000	
D°. for Primary Schools	8,500	
D°. by the board of Health	7,000	
D°. by Overseers of the Poor	25,000	
		161200.—
D° to be paid by the Town for State Tax	22237.33	
D°. County Tax	35000.—	
		57237.33
		268,683.11
Amount allowed for abatement of Taxes		10 000.—
Whole amount to be paid by the Town the year ensuing & ending May 1. 1822		$278,683.11
Balance due from the Treasurer		$84,874 53
Amount of Rents receivable on the 1st. of May 1822	17,917.93	
Allowance for casualties	917.93	
Estimated Amount of Rents that will be received on the 1st May 1822		17.000 —
Probable amount to be rec^{d} from the State for maintenance of State Paupers		4.000 00
Uncollected Taxes estimated to produce		1.500 —
car^{d}. forward		$107.374 53

[364.] Amount brought forward - - - -		$107.374 53
Amount to be assessed on the Town to pay the Commonwealth Tax - - - - -	22237.33	
Amount to be assessed on the Town to pay the County Tax - - - - -	35,000.—	
Amount to be assessed on the Town to pay the balance - - - - - - -	114.071.25	
		171.308 58
	Dollars	278.683.11

The Committee therefore recommend that a Tax of One hundred and fifteen thousand Dollars be levied for the payment of the current expenses of the year ending May 1st. 1822. which sum includes the sum of Ten thousand Dollars as a provision to meet the probable amount of abatements of Taxes.

By order of the Committee of Finance,

Eliphalet Williams,
Chairman.

Boston, June 15. 1821 —

A motion to amend the Report of the Committee of Finance, by reducing the sum proposed to be raised to One hundred thousand Dollars, was negatived.—

The Report was then accepted — and
Voted, that the sum of *One hundred and fifteen thousand Dollars*, be raised by a tax, to be assessed upon the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants to defray the expenses of the Town, the present year.—

It was also Voted, that a further sum of Three thousand Dollars, be raised by a Tax as [365] aforesaid, for the purpose of defraying the expense of lighting the Lamps through the Summer season.

Voted, That on the request of the Committee of Primary Schools, it is expedient that the sum of One thousand Dollars be appropriated for the establishment of a School on the System of mutual instruction, to be under the same regulations and control, as the other Public Schools of the Town.

On motion, Voted, That the Selectmen be requested to insert an article in the Warrant for the next Town meeting, "To see if the Town will appoint a Committee, which, in conjunction with the Selectmen, shall take into consideration the subject of devising measures for the celebration of the festival of Independence, in a manner worthy of that great event; and as shall conduce to the advantage and honor of the Town and the general satisfaction of the Citizens."—

Voted, That a Committee be appointed, who may be authorised in behalf of the Town of Boston, to request of the Honourable Court of Sessions, to furnish the town with a statement, giving the details of the expenditures in their department on account of the County; and give such further information to the Committee, relative to the receipts and expenditures of money on account of the County, as may be necessary, or as [**366**] they may require to enable the Town to form a correct opinion in relation to their monied concerns; — and that said Committee report at a future meeting —

Messrs. William Tudor
Lewis Tappan and
Henry J. Oliver,

were chosen on the Committee —

Voted, Unanimously, That the thanks of the Town be presented to Benjamin Weld Esq. for his able and faithful services, during the time he has executed the office of Treasurer for the County of Suffolk. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be requested to adopt such measures as they may deem expedient, to show proper respect to the U. S. Cadets from West Point, when they shall arrive in Town.

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the subject of assessing the Town and County Taxes in a more equitable and legal manner, with particular reference to the law of 13th. of February last, to apportion, and assess a tax for the year 1821; and that said Committee be directed to report at a future meeting.

Messrs. Lewis Tappan — Jonathan Simonds
George Hallet — Samuel Billings
William Thurston & — Abraham Wild Esqrs.

were chosen on the Committee. —

[**367.**] The following Preamble and Resolutions, were read and passed by the Town — viz —

Whereas, on the 22d day of May 1820, a Petition, signed by a number of Inhabitants of the Town, was presented to the Selectmen, requesting them to insert in the Warrant for calling the next Town meeting, the following subject, "To consider the expediency of uniting the Offices of County and Town Treasurer;" — and —

Whereas, the Selectmen in conformity to the said petition gave public notice to the Inhabitants that this, with other subjects, would be submitted to their consideration on the 29th day of May, at a public Meeting to be holden at Faneuil Hall — and

Whereas, at the said Meeting this subject was duly considered and acted upon, and by the People referred to the Committee of Finance, with directions to consider the subject and report their opinions thereon at a future meeting of the Inhabitants — and —

Whereas, at a legal meeting of the Inhabitants holden at Faneuil Hall on the 22nd day of June 1820. the said Committee of Finance reported that they had maturely considered the subject, and in their opinion the duties of both Offices could be performed by one person, and that it was proper and expedient that the two Offices of County and Town Treasurer should be united, and recommended [**368**] that a Committee be chosen to petition the Legislature, in behalf of the Town, so to alter or amend the law prescribing the mode of electing County Treasurer for the County of Suffolk, as would enable them to effect that object. — and

Whereas, the Town at the said meeting accepted the report of the Committee of Finance, and in conformity to the recommendation contained therein, made choice of the Selectmen as a Committee to petition the Legislature for the necessary alteration of the Laws — and

Whereas the Legislature in conformity to the petition of the Selectmen in pursuance of the said vote, proceeded and made such alterations as were required, and by which the legal impediments to the effecting of the union of the two offices were not only entirely removed, but a new law was enacted, and so constructed as to invest in the Convention, consisting of the Committee of Finance and the Selectmen of Chelsea, the power of uniting the offices in one person. — and

Whereas, after the several decisions of the Town, the Committee of Finance and the Legislature, in favor of the measure, the Committee of Finance, at a meeting on the 15th day of May last past, proceeded again to discuss the "propriety and expediency of the measure," and appointed a Committee for this purpose — and

[**369.**] Whereas, at a subsequent Meeting of the said Committee, the yeas and nays were taken on the question, whether it was "proper and expedient to unite the offices of County and Town Treasurer and Collector," which was determined in the affirmative, there being Sixteen yeas and Eleven nays. and —

Whereas, at a Meeting of the said Committee, on the first day of June last past a motion was made to reconsider the vote by which it was decided to be "proper and expedient" to unite the two offices, which motion was determined by yeas and nays, and passed in the negative, Sixteen Nays and twelve Yeas — and

Whereas the said Committee, at a meeting of the first day of June last past, considered and fixed the sum that ought to be allowed and paid as a Salary to the Town Treasurer & Collector, having in view the intention of electing him to the office of County Treasurer; and on motion made and lost for the Sums of Twenty five hundred Dollars and Twenty two hundred Dollars, the sum of Two thousand Dollars was voted — and —

Whereas, in execution of the foregoing votes and proceedings, the Chairman of the Committee of Finance was directed publicly to advertise for applications from such persons as were desirous to perform the duties of those offices, and on inquiry of the applicants to inform them that the Salary was fixt [370] at Thirty five hundred Dollars for the performance of the duties of both offices: And whereas a meeting of the County Convention was holden on the 11th day of June last past, for the election of a County Treasurer, which being effected, the Town Convention consisting of the Committee of Finance, proceeded to elect a Town Treasurer & Collector; and in violation of their own votes and decisions, the votes and decisions of the Town, in direct opposition to the opinions and wishes of the people, and in utter disregard to the interest of the Town and County, they elected a different person to this office, thereby separating the two offices, by choosing two persons to fill them, one on a Salary of Twenty five hundred Dollars, and the other at a Salary of Fifteen hundred Dollars:— thus preserving at an increased expense, a state of things which it had been solemnly and repeatedly determined to be "proper and expedient" to destroy — and —

Whereas, by these extraordinary and anomalous proceedings, the said Committee have by their conduct evinced a marked disrespect to the People, an utter disregard to their interest, a total want of respect to themselves in their official capacity, and have thereby degraded the dignity of the stations in which they have been placed by the public voice — Therefore

Resolved as the sense of the Town, that they highly disapprove of the proceedings of the Committee of Finance, and that, in the opinion of the [371] Town, a Board, or such parts of it as have been instrumental in thus defeating the intentions of the People, are unworthy of public trust and confidence.—

Resolved, That it is proper that measures be taken to guard against the reccurrence of effects of a similar nature, and that the people be not defeated in their intentions, by agents in whom they have confided the trust of carrying their purposes into execution, that a Committee be chosen to frame such regulations and to recommend such measures, as they may deem most proper to produce the intended effect and that they be desired to report at a future meeting.—

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee agreeably to the last Resolution — viz

Stephen Codman Esq.
Thomas Badger
William Thurston
Mr. Daniel Carney
Benjamin Weld Esq.
Mr. Jonathan Simonds
Isaac Winslow Esq.
Mr. Lewis Tappan and
Henry J. Oliver Esq.

The Meeting was then Dissolved.—

[372.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, holden at Faneuil Hall, on Wednesday, the 4th day of July 1821. at nine o'clock A.M.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

Benjamin Russell Esqr, was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration, on the Anniversary of Independence, Reported, That they had chosen Charles G. Loring Esqr. who had accepted the appointment.

Adjourned to meet at the Old South Church, at 12 o'clock M.—

Met at the Old South Church, according to adjournment, where an Oration was delivered by Charles G. Loring Esq. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted, That the Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Charles G. Loring Esq. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners and principles which produced the great national event, and to request of him a Copy for the press.—

[373.] Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee, to apply to some able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th day of July 1822. That day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, wherein the Orator, is to consider the feelings, manners and principles which led to this great National event, and the important and happy effects which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.

The Meeting was then Dissolved
Attest Thomas Clark, Town Clerk

[374.] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, holden at Faneuil Hall, on Tuesday the 25th day of September A.D. 1821. at 10 o'clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

Francis J. Oliver Esq. was chosen Moderator.—

The Petition of Edmund Winchester and others, "that the Town would take into consideration the expediency of rescinding a Vote passed on the sixth day of June last, by which Hackney Coaches were to be prohibited from standing on the Streets." was read: — Whereupon a motion was made and seconded, that the Town rescind their vote, which prohibits Hackney Coaches standing in the streets; — the question being put, it passed in the negative. —

The Committee appointed on the second day of July last, to take into consideration certain proceedings of the Committee of Finance of the Town, relative to the election of County and Town Treasurer, and "to frame such regulations and recommend such measures as they may deem most proper to carry into effect certain previous votes of the Town, declaring it expedient that these two offices should be united"; — having attended to the business assigned them, ask leave to report in part.—

That in order to form a correct opinion of [375] the conduct of the Committee of Finance, in the election of County and Town Treasurers, they have examined the Acts of the Legislature, from whence they derived their authority, and also the proceedings of the two Conventions of County and Town, which by these acts are constituted for the express purpose of electing these officers. — By the Law passed the 13th day of February 1821. the Committee of Finance, together with the Selectmen of the town of Chelsea, were authorised to meet in Convention on the second Monday in June annually, and elect by ballot, a County Treasurer; to decide upon the compensation he should receive for his services, and the Bonds he should give for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office. — By the Law passed the 16th of June 1813. the Committee of Finance were empowered to meet in Convention in the months of June or July annually and elect a Town Treasurer, and direct as to the bonds to be given by him. Under the authority derived from the Legislature, the County Convention met on the day appointed by law to elect a County Treasurer. — It must be apparent that they acted as a body constituted by the Legislature solely for that purpose and independent of any Municipal instructions which a part of that Convention, in another character might have received from the Town of Boston; and which if it had the right to give, the Town of Chelsea had the same, for the Inhabitants of each town are

equally eligible to this Office, and the [376] motive would be equally justifiable in one Town as the other to unite the two offices; the effect of such partial and conflicting instructions, in case the County should be composed of many towns, might be to enlist local feelings and interest in the election. — But aside from this consideration, and allowing a part of that Convention, acting as a Committee of Finance from the town of Boston to be instructed to unite the two offices of County and Town Treasurer, this could not be effected 'till a County Treasurer had been first chosen, the town Convention having no other authority than that of electing a Town Treasurer, and of course none to unite these offices in one person, an effect which could be brought about by them only by waiting until the County Convention had made choice of their Treasurer, and then, as a Town Convention electing the same person to the office of Town Treasurer, and thus accomplishing the purposes of the town as expressed in their votes. — It will be equally apparent, that under such circumstances, the two bodies being independent of each other, the design of uniting the two offices could be effected only by the Convention acting with a mutual knowledge of each others designs, and a certainty that the person who should be elected to fill one office would agree to accept and discharge the duties of both. — Had the County Convention elected a person for County Treasurer, who would have been, in the opinion of the Committee of Finance [377] an improper person to elect to fill the more responsible office of Town Treasurer and of course to fill both offices, it would have been clearly impracticable in the latter body to have effected this Union, without joining them in an individual incompetent to so arduous and responsible a station and thus obeying the letter while they disregarded the spirit of their instructions from the Town; it not being pretended that the town was resolved to unite the two offices in any [person even] the most incompetent candidate that should offer, but that if a suitable person should be found, capable of filling both offices, and willing to accept, they should be united. — That the Committee of Finance carried into effect the wishes of the Town, as far as in their opinion, prudence would warrant, will, it is believed, appear from a plain statement of Facts.

From the records of the County Convention, we find, that at the Meeting held, as was before observed, on the second Monday in June, they proceeded to elect a County Treasurer; that the Gentleman who has filled the office of Town Treasurer with so much general satisfaction, was chosen — and a Sub-Committee was appointed to notify him of his election, and at the same time to inform him, that it was the intention of the Committee of Finance to unite the two offices, but he declined accepting the appointment in consequence of the proposed union. — This Convention, after directing the Chairman to advertise in [378] the public Papers for any person disposed to accept the two offices to make application for the same, adjourned to a day suffi-

ciently distant to give time for this notice and application to be made — The notice was given, and eight persons applied. — The Convention at their adjourned meeting proceeded to elect a County Treasurer from among the applicants; but so great was the difference of opinion, that five ballotings were given, before any one received a majority of votes, and then only fifteen out of twenty eight. — The Gentleman chosen accepted, gave satisfactory bonds and was qualified for the office. — After these proceedings of the County Convention, the Committee of Finance held their meeting for the choice of Town Treasurer, and to use their own language, "were placed under very peculiar circumstances at the time, because, while a majority were desirous to unite the two offices, they had no alternative but to elect a person wholly unacquainted with town accounts, or to separate the two offices. — They preferred the latter course, in which they were more united than in any previous vote, for on the first ballot, the present Town Treasurer received twenty votes out of twenty eight votes for that office and the County Treasurer but three votes. That the Committee, in this final proceeding, "acted conscientiously and with a sincere desire to promote the best interest of the town," will not, it is believed, be doubted, although the wishes [**379**] of the town for a union were not literally complied with.— Could or would the Town have acted differently, if placed in circumstances similar to those of their Committee?

From an impartial examination and mature consideration of all the proceedings above detailed, and the laws authorizing them, this Committee cannot but regret the late vote of censure upon the Committee of Finance, who have served the town gratuitously for a number of years with credit to themselves, and benefit to the town; a vote which they think, would not have been passed, if the Town had been more fully acquainted with the whole proceedings in the election of County and Town Treasurer, and the provisions of the statute laws relative thereto. Your Committee therefore respectfully recommend, that the preamble and resolve of the town, passed at the Meeting on the second day of July last, so far as they censure the Committee of Finance be reconsidered, and expunged from the records of the town, and not left to be handed down to posterity as a lasting censure upon so deserving and respectable a body of our fellow Citizens. — And your Committee, ask leave to sit again, for the purpose of reporting, on the latter part of their Commission, viz "the measures most proper to be taken to guard against the recurrence of effects of a similar nature."

By order of the Committee
Stephen Codman, chairman

[**380.**] The foregoing Report was read and accepted, and it was voted, that Committee have leave to sit again, and that the report they may make be printed and distributed among the Inhabitants to be acted upon at the adjournment of this Meeting.—

The Committee appointed by the Town of Boston July 2nd. 1821. "To take into consideration the subject of assessing the Town & County Taxes in a more equitable and legal manner; with particular reference to the law of February 13th last, to apportion and assess a tax for the year 1821." have attended to that duty and present to the Town the following

Report.

There is no subject, in the municipal concerns of the town, which excites more interest than that of Taxation.

It is a ground of general complaint and uneasiness; and those upon whom it seems to touch most lightly are often the loudest in remonstrance, and most eager in evasion.

The Committee have turned their attention, *First*, to ascertain if there were any legal defects in the system of taxation, *Second*, if the assessing of taxes was attended with any abuses and the grounds of complaint among the citizens; *third* to [**381**] see if any remedies could be provided to make the levying more equal and just, and to remove all cause of dissatisfaction on the part of any portion of the Citizens.—

1. The Committee have examined the laws and find that the Treasurer of the Commonwealth is directed annually to send his Warrant to the Selectmen or assessors of each town, requiring them to assess the sum with which each town stands charged in the schedule made every tenth year by the Valuation Committee of the State; to tax each male poll, above the age of sixteen years at fourteen cents, and the remainder of such sum charged as aforesaid, to assess upon the respective inhabitants thereof, according to the value of the real estate therein, *possessed or owned*, by each of them, and the amount of their respective personal estates. — It is thus that the law provides for the assessing of the *State Tax.*—

The same law authorizes the Justices of the court of Sessions, in the respective Counties, to apportion the *County Tax* on the several towns according to the proportion at which they are rated in the Schedule aforesaid.— The law provides also that the *Town Taxes* may be levied and collected according to a valuation to be taken in any town *at any time of the year which the Inhabitants at a legal meeting to be warned for the purpose may determine to be necessary.*

The existing laws are wisely framed, embrace [**382**] every suitable subject of taxation, and give ample authority to assessors in the discharge of their duty. It appears then only necessary that they should be impartially and firmly enforced to secure the chief objects desired.— The Committee are unable to percieve any defect except the law not making real property liable for the taxes assessed upon it.—

In Cases where estates are mortgaged for their full value, and the mortgager has no other property but retains the possession, the taxes must be assessed upon the insolvent owner, and in default of his paying them they cannot be collected.—

The Committee learn that several very valuable estates have been, and stll are, in this predicament, and no tax can be collected of the owners in possession.—

2nd Two assistant Assessors are annually chosen in each of the twelve Wards of the town, by the Freeholders; and in convention three principal Assessors are chosen by them to perform the duty required by law, with the aid afforded by the Assistants. Accompanied by the Assistant Assessors of the Ward the Assessors visit every dwelling therein to take the Polls and the real estates, appraising them at their supposed cash value, and assessing the Taxes upon the occupant when he is responsible. Afterwards, the Assessors, by advertising in all the news papers, call upon the Inhabitants to return [**383**] lists of all their personal property. In very few instances is this requisition complied with.—The Assessors then proceed, with the aid of the Assistants to estimate or doom the Inhabitants for their personal property according to the best information they can obtain and their own judgment. When this duty is completed they again publicly call upon the inhabitants to examine the assessments at their office. The invitation is generally neglected. In proper time the lists are committed to the Collector, who sends Tax bills to the dwellings of all the inhabitants.—For two years the whole Board of Assistant Assessors has assembled to revise the dooming made by the ward assessors, and the beneficial effects of this measure have been apparent. Such is the practice of levying the taxes. The Committee are of opinion that the principal Assessors for the time being are competent for the discharge of their duty and desirous to perform it with fidelity and impartiality, but that they have given too much latitude to the authority to *abate* taxes. The law authorises them to abate taxes in certain specified cases. The Finance Committee of the town annually report that the sum of ten thousand Dollars be raised in addition to the estimated amount of the disbursements, to provide for abatements which have usually amounted to about that sum—The Board of Assessors a year since passed a vote recommending that no abatements should be made by the principal assessors unless the Assistants for the Ward in which the complainant lived [**383½**] should concur in the measure. — The consequence of this judicious vote has been that the abatements of the last year but little exceeded six thousand dollars. — The Committee are of opinion that further checks can and ought to be made on this authority to abate taxes. — They find that opulent citizens do not hesitate to exert persevering personal application to the Assessors until they obtain reductions of their taxes. — The language of the law is imperative. "If there be any persons who by reason of age, infirmity or poverty may be unable to contribute towards the public charges in the judgment of the assessors they may exempt the Polls and Estates of such persons or abate any part of what they are assessed at, as said assessors may think just and equitable." The Committee are of opinion

that after publicly requiring the inhabitants to hand in lists of their property; after inviting them to examine their assessments; and the lists are handed to the collector; the Assessors should adhere to the strict letter of the law, and make no abatements unless in cases specified, viz, "age, infirmity or poverty."—

One ground of complaint has been that many rich inhabitants leave town the last of April to take a temporary residence in the Country on the first of May where by an agreement with such places, or otherwise, they pay but a small proportion of the sum they would be liable for if they continued in town, and escape all asesssments [**384**] upon their personal property in this town, where they reside the greatest part of the year. While many honorable exceptions exist to this practice, the Committee cannot but reprobate this conduct in those who are guilty of it. It is avoiding paying a just quota of the taxes which are assessed for the protection of these persons and their property, for the education of their children, and the support of all those valuable institutions which do honour to the town, and of which such citizens have their full benefit.—

Of similar character are the threats often used to remove from town if taxes are not lessened, and even by some who have amassed large property by residing in a place towards which they are so ungrateful.—The vote of the town passed last May, directing the Assessors henceforward to assess Taxes for personal property upon the inhabitants who have residence in town the first Tuesday in February annually will, it is believed, check these abuses and oblige all to pay their reasonable proportion of the burden of the town and County taxes or take up their permanent residence in other places.—

Another complaint to a considerable degree well founded is, that the richer classes of inhabitants are not proportionably taxed with those of smaller property. The fact is clear that in the ratio of a person's ability to pay taxes he is practically exempted from the weight of taxation. [**385**] So apparent is this fact that seldom does a complainant aver that he is taxed more than his proportion of the aggregate of town and county taxes. This complaint is that he is unequally taxed in proportion to those who are as rich or richer.—To remedy as far as possible this real evil many are desirous that the monied institutions in the Town should be taxed in their corporate capacities. The Committee are however of opinion that such a proceeding would be illegal and unjust. The Tax Act directs Assessors to "assess upon the respective *inhabitants*" only; and gives no authority to assess upon incorporated companies.—The same Act requires the Assessors to assess upon the inhabitants according to the proportion of the amount of their respective personal estate, including "all *Bank Stock* or shares in any other incorporated Com-

pany possessing taxable property, according to the just value thereof."—In dooming therefore, the Assessors include all the Stocks owned by the inhabitants, and were the monied institutions to be taxed, the Stockholders would pay a double tax.—

The great cause of dissatisfaction and complaint, among the inhabitants, it is repeated, is that the taxes are not assessed in proportion to the property liable to be taxed. The Committee are aware that it is impossible to have a perfect system; that many will escape [386] owing to their property being undervalued; that some will pay an unequal proportion, on account of their property being overestimated, and that mistakes and false judgments, incident to all, will occasionally operate. — They are of opinion that the great body of the inhabitants, when they consider that all our taxes are imposed by officers of their own annual choice; that the amount of them is small compared with taxes of other large towns in this country, and almost nothing in comparison with the heavy taxes of other countries; that the amount raised is applied to so valuable purposes; that the duty of assessing is an arduous one, and the aim of the Assessors to do their duty impartially, will cheerfully submit to the operation of a system, which if imperfect can be rendered more perfect by themselves.

The Committee submit to the consideration of the Town the following votes which they recommend for adoption.—

Voted, That previous to the annual assessments being definitively determined, the whole Board of Assistant Assessors and Principal Assessors shall assemble to revise the dooming of all the inhabitants whose taxable property shall exceed the sum of two thousand dollars.—

Voted, That after such revision no alteration shall be made unless the Assistant Assessors, [387] for the Ward in which the person taxed shall reside, shall be present and concur with the principal Assessors in making such alterations; and provided that the complainant shall previously render a list of all his personal property on oath, to said Assessors.—

Voted, That the Assessors be directed to make no abatement of Taxes, after the lists are committed to the Treasurer and Collector, unless in the cases specified by law, viz age, infirmity or poverty.

Voted, That the Assessors be directed to assess upon the amount of what they deem each taxable inhabitants personal property to be.—

Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to take into consideration the propriety of applying to the Legislature to insert a

clause in the next tax act making the specific real estates liable for all taxes levied thereon; and that said Committee make such application, on behalf of the Town, if they shall judge the same to be expedient.—

For the Committee
Lewis Tappan —

The foregoing Report was read and Accepted.—

[388.] The Committee appointed to apply to the Court of Sessions, for a Statement, giving the details of the expenses of the County of Suffolk: — made a Report, which was read and ordered to be printed for the information of the inhabitants; — to be acted upon at the adjournment.—

Adjourned to Monday 22d. October, at 10 o'clock A.M.

Boston October 22d. 1821
Met according to adjournment, 10 o'clock A.M.

The two following Reports, which had been printed, and distributed among the Inhabitants, were read — viz —

The Committee appointed at the Meeting of the second day of July last, and "authorized in behalf of the Town of Boston, to request of the Honorable Court of Sessions, to furnish the Town with a Statement, giving the details of the expenditures in their department on account of the County; and give such further information to the Committee relative to the receipts and expenditures on account of the County, as may be necessary, or as they may require to enable the Town to form a correct opinion in relation to their monied [389] concerns." — Ask leave respectfully to Report: —

That they have attended to the execution of the above duty by addressing a letter under date of July 10th to the Honorable Court of Sessions, giving a Copy of the vote of the Town, to which they have received no answer. In conversation afterwards with one of the Justices of the said Court, he informed the Committee, that as the Court was not appointed by the authority of the Town, it could not without impropriety render an account of its doings to them, and like all other public officers could be amenable [only] to those by whom they were appointed. At the same time this Gentleman observed that the Court had no wish to conceal any of the affairs under their charge, and that the Committee might obtain a knowledge of all the monies received and disbursed by the Court, by inquiry of the County Treasurer and that he should be very willing to give any information in his power which might be necessary to enable the Committee to understand these accounts.—

Your Committee then addressed themselves, to the County Treasurer, and found from him that all the accounts previously settled, up to the recent period of his coming into office, were filed at the Clerk's office in the County Court House. After some examination of different Accounts, the Committee thought it would [**390**] answer the views of the Town, in part, to exhibit one of these accounts; they therefore made a copy of the Treasurer's general account for 1820, which is herewith submitted, and on which they will offer a few remarks.—

The total of this account is much larger than those of common years, as will be also that of 1821, which is owing to the erection of the new County Prison. The Committee did not deem it their duty to inquire especially into this expenditure. They may however, congratulate the County on the erection of a prison which will relieve it from reproach, to which the defects of the present prison have long exposed it — The new buildings seem to be constructed in the most substantial manner, on the most improved plans, and as they are superintended by a very capable architect will no doubt be faithfully executed. The County besides has a further security, that every thing relating to this prison will be transacted with the greatest prudence and fidelity, as it appears by the accounts of the Court of Sessions that three gentlemen are paid as agents for superintending it.—

So far as the Committee have been able to ascertain, the ordinary expenses of the County are between thirty and forty thousand dollars annually, and the Committee think the best service they can render, is to call the earnest attention [**391**] of the Town to the principal object of this expenditure. It will be seen by the Treasurer's account for 1820, that without including any part of the eleventh item, the sum of $29071.76 was charged for courts and magistrates; to this article may be added the salaries of Judge of the Municipal Court, and the Police Officer, paid at the Town Treasury, amounting to $1650, which added to the former will make an expense of $30,721.76, for the purposes almost exclusively of police and criminal jurisdiction; without mentioning the sums paid for the Town Watch and employ of Constables by the Selectmen. It will be recollected that this expense is independent of what is paid under the jurisdiction of the United States for criminal purposes; and that after conviction for heavy offences, the culprit is transferred to the State prison. It would seem then obvious that there must be some waste in this part of our expenditure.—

The character of the Courts, and the Officers, as well as the entire publicity of their transactions render it unnecessary to look for any useless expense, except to that branch of the magistracy who do not enjoy the advantage of the last of these circumstances, the entire publicity of their transactions. The item for

"Justices, Sheriffs, Constables, &c. amounting to $18700.77. appeared to your Committee to be the one that most required investigation; but in attempting to make it, they [**392**] found themselves checked in the outset, by a want of the Schedules, particularizing the annual charges made by these Justices against the County, all of which for several years past have been taken out of the files, and the Committee have not been able to find them.—

But in the files of the first part of the present year, appertaining to the account of Mr. Weld, the late County Treasurer settled when he left the office; which account is for a period of four months and a half only, the schedule of a similar item, is to be found. By this it appears that for this period the sum paid to the Justices of the Peace amounted to $3414. —, and taking the same proportion for twelve months it would be $9104. — Of the two highest of these charges, the first amounts to $737.23, which at the same rate for a year would be $1965.95, and the second to $620.30, which at the same rate for a year would be $1654.13. The receipts of Constables are not very far short of that of the Magistrates, though the number of the former is nearly double. It will be recollected that these charges of Magistrates and Constables, paid by the public, are only for the costs that the individuals are not able to pay. The aggregate therefore received from the community in their individual and corporate capacities must be a very considerable amount. Now without imputing blame to any individual, the Committee would suggest that this inferior department of Justice seems liable to many [**394***] objections under its present system; that the immediate expence is perhaps one of the least of its evils, and that the honor and interests of the County render a different organization of it, a subject of very urgent importance.

Your Committee may perhaps be satisfied, that they have done all that was required of them; yet they would have added a few remarks on some details of minor consequence, which might require some correction, but as they found in the course of their enquiries, that another Committee had preceded them, on the same ground, and were to make their report at the same time, they were apprehensive they might be troubling the Town with a repetition of the same facts, and will therefore only add to this report a very few remarks that arose incidentally from the subject of their inquiry. The County of Suffolk is composed of the towns of Boston and Chelsea, the contributions from which towns for 1821, is stated as follows: —

Boston	$25,332.52
Chelsea	187.63
	$25,520.15

* Pages of original record book numbered incorrectly, number 393 being omitted.

By which it appears that the Town of Boston, with the exception of a very small fraction, pays the whole expense of the County; and yet the authority that receives and disburses the whole of this money is not accountable to the Town. But the circumstance that the Court of Sessions is not accountable to the Town, [**395**] is not the only disadvantage arising to the Citizens from its jurisdiction; but the concurrent authority, without concert which they hold with the Selectmen in expending the Taxes of the Town, for the County is virtually the same thing, must often occasion loss and inconvenience. A single case may be cited to exemplify this. In October 1820, 10,000 dollars were borrowed under the authority of the Court of Sessions, payable in four years at 5½ PCent. interest, payable semi-annually, and other sums have been borrowed since,* at 5 Per cent. while at the same, or nearly the same periods, that these sums were borrowed for the use of the Town as a County, the Town, as a Town, had money lying in the banks to meet demands, for which they only received three Per cent. interest: which interest however, the Committee are pleased in remarking is an advantage recently secured to the Town, for until the past year, the Town received no interest on its deposits.—

Another disadvantage arising from this kind [**396**] of double government, arises under the head of Licenses. By the present regulations, the application is made to the Selectmen; if they approbate the petition, it goes to the Court of Sessions who grant the license; but as they do not make regular returns to the Selectmen, there is an uncertainty with regard to persons licensed, and many retailers of spirits evade the laws requiring licenses.

From a consideration of these circumstances, and of others of less importance, that might have been enumerated; from a persuasion that great improvements may be made and much unnecessary expense be saved in the department of petty criminal jurisdiction, the Committee are induced to recommend that the following vote should be passed by the Town:

Voted, That a Committee of seven gentlemen be appointed, who shall be directed to inquire into the expediency of giving the same limits to the Town and County; to ascertain whether the Court of Sessions cannot be modified or abolished; and to propose a system for the consideration of a future meeting, whereby greater unity in administration, more direct responsibility for expenditures, and more exact economy in the expenses of Town and County may be effected.—

W. Tudor, Per order.

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*The amount of borrowed money which the County owes at the present time is 65.186.37-100ths. In addition to which the Treasurer informs the Committee he expects shortly to borrow a further sum of 10,000 dollars, making the whole amount of the County Debt, Seventy five thousand, one hundred and eighty six dollars, and thirty seven cents.—

[**397.**] Additional Report of the Committee upon the subject of uniting the two offices of County and Town Treasurer.

In attending to the remaining part of the business committed to them, viz. "To frame regulations and to recommend such measures as may be deemed most proper to carry into effect the votes of the Town for the union of the two offices of County and Town Treasurer — the Committee ask leave to Report: —

Having explained the temporary obstacles which were opposed to the desired union of the two offices the past year, they conceive it their duty to point out those which will probably operate hereafter as permanent ones. The first which presents itself is, that the County being composed of two Towns, two distinct sets of books become necessary for the different accounts of the county treasurer and the treasurer of the town of Boston. The second which they think necessary to enumerate, and which has operated as a strong ground of objection to the acceptance of the offices by one person, and will so continue to operate under the present arrangement of the county business, arises from the numerous accounts quarterly and yearly brought against the County for expenses incurred by those criminal prosecutions which originate in justice courts.— The fees arising upon these [**398**] prosecutions are always a charge upon and paid by the County, whenever the defendants are acquitted, and whenever upon their conviction, they are unable to pay. The last obstacle to the desired union will be found in the fact, that all the pecuniary concerns of the County are under the sole control and direction of the court of sessions, composed of five judges, who are not accountable to the two towns, of which the county is composed, for any of their proceedings, have the sole and exclusive authority to direct the county treasurer in all the business of his office, and to call him to account for all monies collected by taxes, or borrowed by their authority on the credit of the county.

The obstacles alluded to by the Committee might be removed. 1st — By erecting Boston into an independent county, and thereby rendering two sets of books for town and county treasurer unnecessary. 2nd —By rendering the county accounts under this new arrangement still less multifarious and less burthensome on the new treasurer; — which might be effected by transferring the present criminal jurisdiction now exercised by our justices of the peace to a more independent and efficient criminal court, and also by totally abolishing the present court of sessions and vesting its authority, partly in the Selectmen, and partly in the proposed new criminal court, as hereafter suggested.—

[**399.**] As to the benefits which either Boston or Chelsea derives from being united in one County, none are apparent, but the disadvantages are very evident. The amount paid by Chelsea towards the county tax is so very small, that to Boston it can be

no relief, for out of $30.000, the Tax for 1820, Chelsea paid but $231.60. On the part of Chelsea no benefit arises, by its being connected with the County of Suffolk, unless the inhabitants prefer attending court as jurymen, to staying at home, (which we cannot presume) for if it was annexed to the county of Essex or Middlesex, the call for jurymen would not be made but half so often, and the number of courts would not be half so many to attend, as at present, while connected with Boston.—

If the town of Boston should become a county by itself, the Committee of Finance might then be authorized to choose one treasurer, to discharge the duties now performed by two, provided those duties can be so simplified as to remove the objections to the acceptance of this office, and the difficulties in performing the business can be avoided. The erection of Boston into a county by itself, would not only facilitate the contemplated union of the two offices in manner above suggested, but would be attended with other advantages to the town of no small importance. The contemplated alterations would lessen the expenses of the town in many other [**400**] respects, besides the saving to be made by the union of the two offices in one. That the expenses of the county of Suffolk are at present enormous, will appear by an examination of the account hereto annexed, N°. 1. which is copied from the official return, made by the court of Sessions to the office of the Secretary of State in January, 1821 — Of the items which make up the different amounts contained in schedule N°. 3, we could not obtain full and satisfactory information, but have received enough to authorize a belief that much the largest part arises directly, or in consequence of the present administration of the criminal and penal code of laws, on prosecutions which originate in our justice courts. That abuses exist, which, if not a perversion of justice, border upon it, under the forms of law, has been for a long time believed and regretted, by those who have an opportunity of knowing the number of warrants which have been issued by justices, and the trifling causes of complaint upon which they have been founded. If to the large item of $18700.77 contained in schedule N°. 3, we add that part of the expenses which are charged in N°. 11, amounting to $3,543.52, paid to the Sheriff for dieting prisoners from the first of May to the 31st of October 1820, or six months, we think the present enormous expenses of the county cannot but be apparent, although we should make due allowance for part of these expenses which are paid by the State.

[**401.**] We had intended to give a more minute detail; which we presume could be found in the schedules referred to in the above account, and to separate those charges which fall wholly on the county, from those paid by the state, but could not find them, either at the office of the secretary of State, where copies ought to have been left — of the clerk of the Court of Sessions, or of that of the County Treasurer, where they should be deposited and kept.

When it is considered, that many justices of the peace in this county depend upon the fees of their offices for subsistence, that the power to issue warrants at their discretion is vested in them by law, as well as the authority to convict, acquit or bind over delinquents; that they are subject to no effectual control for the abuse of their discretionary authority, (though a general conviction exists that it *is* abused;) that their charges are sanctioned by statute law, and their full amount will eventually be paid by the county, if delinquents prove unable; — it would be reposing a degree of confidence in human weakness which experience will by no means justify, to expect, that all this unrestrained power will not be abused, or that such strong motives of interest perpetually operating, as temptations to misconduct, will be successfully resisted. It cannot be expected that under such a system of things, prosecutions [**402**] will be discouraged, but rather encouraged and promoted. The consequence is, and will continue to be, an enormous expense to the county, and an increasing burthen upon its treasurer, upon whom devolves the whole duty of discharging these numerous demands. It is only by appointing some of the most respectable and virtuous of our fellow-citizens with authority to hold exclusive original cognizance of all criminal matters, now cognizable by justices of the peace, with fixed salaries, that these evils can be remedied; which are as much the bane of society, as an unnecessary and great charge upon the county. It is confidently believed, that the fees established by law, would be sufficient to defray all the expenses of this court, over and above those paid by the county, and if not, the deficiency would be several thousands of dollars less, than is now paid out of the county treasury, to justices, constables, &c &c. —

The other advantages to be derived from the proposed change, would arise from making those who manage the pecuniary concerns of the county, more amenable to those whose agents they are, and whose money they expend. A great saving in the annual expenses of the county might be effected by a more direct accountability of its agents to their constituents, — We have stated that the court of sessions, in which is vested by law, all the management [**403**] of the pecuniary concerns of the county, are but nominally accountable to any body of men. Although they are bound to render annually to the Legislature an account of their expenditures of the past year and an estimate of the probable amount of the ensuing, before they can obtain a resolve authorizing them to levy a tax on the county; yet it is too notorious to be doubted that little investigation is usually made, and for this obvious reason, that the Legislature is not required to make provision for the payment of county expenses, otherwise than by passing a resolve authorising the tax to be levied, which is usually for the amount required; as no complaint is made by the people, it is undoubtedly taken for granted that the estimate of the court of sessions is right, the sum asked for wanted, and therefore leave is granted to lay a tax to raise it.

How much this legislative authority of superintending the sessions accounts, is exercised for the benefit of the county, may appear from comparing the estimates of the expenses of 1821, with those actually incurred in 1820, which is also annexed, N°. 2.—

In this estimate for Justices' fees, chargeable to the County for 1821, there appears charged but $3000; when the amount actually paid to *one* Justice between February and October, 1820, was $1366.45, and to *three* Justices from January to October, of the same year was paid $3100.63 [**404**] more than ten Justices having been paid their accounts that year against the county; and the estimate for Constable's fees in criminal bills of costs for 1821, is but $1800, when the amount paid to *one* of them only between March and December, 1820, was $1121.50. These two items were obtained from a view of a copy of the official paper, for a short time, containing the particulars of which the schedule N°. 3, in the account N°. 1, is made up. As another evidence that great saving might be made in the expenses of the county if its pecuniary concerns were managed by the same persons who now so judiciously direct those of the town, we would mention one fact only, which is, that while the Court of Sessions, as guardians of the pecuniary interest of the County of Suffolk, were borrowing money of Banks and individuals to defray the expenses of the County, at a rate, it is believed, of not less than Six per cent. per annum interest, and while they were petitioning, as they did in their application to the Legislature, in January, 1821, for a tax to be laid on the county, among other things for raising $2400 to pay interest on loans the present year, the Committee of Finance of this town were negotiating with a bank to take the town's money, lying useless in the Treasury, as it necessarily must every year, from the fall, when taxes are paid, till the ensuing summer, when it is wanted, [**405**] and at that very period actually amounting to 70 or 80,000 dollars, at the rate of 3 per cent. interest per annum. If a less rate of interest is now paid by the County for a part of money borrowed, we are indebted to the Chairman of the Committee of Finance, whose vigilance to promote the best interest and most economical management of the town's affairs has been so conspicuous. Many other reasons might be given and facts stated, which would tend to shew the propriety of the remedy we propose suggesting to the town; but believing as we do, that those already offered are sufficient, we proceed respectfully to recommend as the most effectual means to accomplish the object for which this Committee was appointed. That a Committee be chosen to apply to the Legislature, 1st. To separate the town of Chelsea from the County of Suffolk, and erect the town of Boston into a County by itself. 2nd. That the Court of Sessions of this County be abolished and all the business of the

County, heretofore under the control of this Court, be transferred to the Selectmen of the town of Boston, except so far as hereinafter provided. 3d. That the duties heretofore performed by the Treasurer of the County of Suffolk, shall be performed by the Treasurer of the Town of Boston, and the two offices, hereafter be united in one person, and all liabilities, to which the County Treasurer is by law subjected, shall [**406**] devolve on the Treasurer of the Town. 4th. That a Court, consisting of three learned and respectable persons be established, which shall have exclusive original cognizance of all offences and criminal matters now cognizable by Justices of the Peace in the County of Suffolk, one of which Judges shall hold a court every day in the week, (Sundays excepted) that they shall account for, and pay over to the Town Treasurer quarterly, all monies received by them for fines, fees of office, licenses, &c. that it shall be their duty to keep a fair and true record of all their doings, to audit and pass upon all accounts of Sheriffs, Constables, Gaolers, Coroners, and Witnesses on prosecutions before themselves, which are now cognizable by the Court of Sessions; they shall have the same power over the gaol, (except in its erection) and of its inmates, as is now by law vested in the Court of Sessions; they shall make, twice in every year, a report thereof to the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court; that they shall, together with the Judge of the Municipal Court, have the same power with respect to licenses, as the Court of Sessions now have; that it shall be the duty of this court to digest and carry into execution such a system for the prevention of crimes and detection of criminals, as may most effectually secure the lives and property of the citizens from day and midnight depredations. That the Justices, composing this Court, shall be appointed [**407**] and commissioned by the Governor and Council as other judicial officers are; that they shall, in lieu of all other fees, receive an annual and fixed salary, such as the town may determine, not to be lessened during their continuance in office; and have power to commit to the House of Industry, all vagabonds and others liable by law to be sent to that place, for such time and under such restrictions as the Legislature shall prescribe. —

(signed) Stephen Codman —
Chairman.

N°. 1.

Dr. County of Suffolk, in account current from 16th Decr. 1819, to 31st Decr. 1820, with County Treasurer.

Cash paid Warrants from Hon. Court of Sessions as per Schedule N°. 1 - - - - - - - - - - - - -	8,547.11
Dº. orders of the County Agents for New Prison N°. 2	19.335.56
Dº. Justices, Sheriffs, Constables &c - - N°. 3	18:700.77
Dº. Jurors of several Supreme Judicial Courts " 4	3.656.39
Dº. ditto Boston Courts of Common Pleas — N°. 5.	3.531.94

D°. Jurors of several Municipal Courts N°. 6	1077.50
D°. Witnesses and Jurors on Inquests & Coroners N°. 7	294.49
D°. Witnesses in Supreme Judicial Court N°. 8	504.82
D°. D°. in Municipal Court - - - N°. 9	1137.42
D°. D°. in Justices Quarter Bills - N°. 10	168.43
D°. Notes, Dieting Bills, Firing for Offices &c N°. 11	23590.62
D°. Balance of Interest Account - - - N°. 12	862.23
	81.407.28
Allowance by the Court of Sessions to Treasurer for 12 m°. 17 days - - - - - - - - - - -	1.780.15
	83.187.43
Balance due County of Suffolk - - - - - -	4.634.13
	87.821.56
By Balance N°. 13 - - - - - - - - - - -	87.821.56

Examined by William Dounison, Edward Jones } Committee

[408.] N°. 2.

Estimate of the Current Expenses of the County of Suffolk, A.D. 1821.

Sheriff for Dieting Criminals over and above the sum allowed by the Commonwealth for Turnkey - - - - -	$3000 —
Sheriff for his Attendance on all the Courts - -	600
Deputy Sheriffs for ditto - - - - - - - - -	500
Constables for Attendance on all the Courts and Juries - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1000
Constables, their fees in Criminal Bills of Costs not paid by Defendants, but chargeable to the County	1800.
Justices of the Court of Sessions for Attendance &c	350.
Justices of the Peace, their Fees, chargeable to the County - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3000.
Grand & Petit Jurors to all the Courts, after deducting the money received for Jury Verdicts -	5000
Night Watches at the Prison - - - - - - - -	960
Scavenger at the Prison - - - - - - - - -	180
Inquests on Dead Bodies - - - - - - - - -	200
Physician to the Gaol - - - - - - - - - -	100
Keeper of the Court House & Expenses - - - -	350
Charcoal for Prisoners, Candles for Watch, Fire Tubs, Room Tubs, Buckets, Lime, Sand, Brooms &c. - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	300
Straw Beds, & Blankets, and Clothing for Prisoners,	300
Stationery, Records Books, Binding Dockets, Printing - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	300

Fuel for Court House in Court Rooms & County Offices & Candles for the Courts, &c. - - - -	400
Carting Dirt, clearing Vaults &c. - - - - - - -	100
Witnesses in Criminal Causes before Justices chargeable to the County - - - - - - - - -	300
	$18,740
[409.] Amount brought forward - - - - -	18,740.00
Allowance to the County Treasurer - - - - -	1700.00
Repairs of County Buildings - - - - - - -	160.—
Interest growing due on Loans - - - - - - -	2400.—
	23.000.00

The foregoing Reports and Documents being read, a lengthy debate ensued; — after which it was

Voted, That a Committee consisting of thirteen persons, be appointed to take the whole subject of the two Reports now presented to the Town into full consideration; to consider all the facts and recommendations therein contained, and to report to the town, at a future Meeting, a complete system relating to the administration of the Town and County which shall remedy the present evils; and that they be authorized to recommend any other measures calculated to create a more efficient, responsible, and acceptable system for Town and County government. —

The following Gentlemen were appointed on the Committee — viz —

Hon[l]. John Phillips
" Charles Jackson
" William Prescott
George Blake Esq
Hon Daniel Webster
" Lemuel Shaw
" Joseph Tilden
Hon[l]. William Sullivan
" Josiah Quincy
William Tudor Esq.
Col. Henry Orne
Isaac Winslow Esq.
Stephen Codman "

[410.] The Chairman of the Committee for erecting a House of Industry, read the following Report — viz —

The Committee, appointed by the Town, on the seventh of May last, and who were authorized to select a place for the erection of a House of Industry, with an extent of land attached to it, not less than Fifty acres, and to erect suitable buildings thereon; and who, for those purposes, were invested with certain powers and charged with certain duties, expressed in the votes of the town, ask leave to apprise their fellow citizens of the progress already made in that concern, and of their views in relation to it, by way of a Report, in part.—

The Committee have been induced to avail themselves of this early opportunity, which the present meeting of the town offers,

to communicate the state of the undertaking, partly from a general sense of the duty, incumbent upon all Committees, charged with similar duties, and partly from the particular nature and relations of that, to which, without any agency of their own, they have been called by their fellow citizens.—The Committee are deeply impressed with the salutary nature of that principle, which requires an early and frequent accountability from all public agents; particularly from those, entrusted [411] with the expenditures of public monies, and are therefore anxious now, and will be, hereafter, to keep their fellow citizens apprised, as early as possible, of every step they have taken, or shall take, relative to this concern, with the reasons on which it has been founded; and this, not only for the purpose of satisfying the wise curiosity of the thoughtful and intelligent, but also, for that of being enabled, seasonably, to receive from the Town, or from individuals, any hints, instructions, or corrections, of which their course of proceedings may, from time to time, be susceptible. These general sentiments have been, in this case, strengthened and quickened by the peculiar character of the service, to which they have been appointed; and from reflections, growing out of that character, resulting from a farther acquaintance with the whole subject, consequent upon their experience, and which, as they have had an influence upon some of their proceedings, they apprehend, ought early to be communicated to their fellow citizens.

In order to possess the Town of all the reasons, which, thus far have been the basis of their proceedings, your committee ask leave to review the origin and progress of this design, until its execution was committed to their agency, in as much from them, your Committee have drawn their rules of conduct. [412] A course of this kind also will have a tendency to recall the recollection of facts and to revive impressions, which are, not only important, in themselves, but which are essential to be remembered and realized, in order to the perpetuating that general satisfaction, and unanimity, with which this design originated; and which is so essential to the success of every public institution, connected with the sympathy and interests of a great community.

The design of a House of Industry originated in the petition of many most respectable and humane citizens, for the establishment of a workhouse — in other words, a place for the confinement and employment of the idle and vicious poor. The committee, to whom those petitions were referred, made a report to the Town, containing facts, statements and reasonings on the subject, and concluding with certain resolutions, which were subsequently adopted by the Town and were the authority, on which their present committee were appointed, and under which they have acted. —

The leading principle of that report was, — *the duty incumbent upon society of discriminating in its charitable provisions and arrangements, between the poor, by reason of* [413] *infancy, age or misfortune, and the poor by reason of idleness, or vice.* All the reasonings that report and the propositions, contained in it, turned upon that principle. And although that committee, in selecting a name for the new establishment, adopted that of a House of Industry, which is a term of broader import and is applied to poor of other descriptions, yet, apprehending that, in selecting this denomination, reference was had to the moral effect, which the name an institution bears, has, or is supposed to have, on its inmates, and not with any intention of making more comprehensive than the main drift of their argument, the proposed institution, your present committee have, in all their proceedings kept in view singly the provision for the idle and vicious poor; without any scope, or reference to those of a virtuous character, or description.

With this explanation of their views and of the regulating principle of their conduct, your committee apprehend that there are four points, on which it will be satisfactory to their fellow citizens to receive, and on which, in the present stage of their proceedings, it may be in their power to give information.

1. The location of the institution, and the reasons, which governed the committee in selecting it. —

[414.] 2. The size, quality and particular position of the building, with reference to the tract of land, on which it is situated, and the reasons on which each were adopted.

3. The monies already expended, in purchase of the land, and in advancing, thus far, the building.

4. The adequacy of the present appropriation to the object; — the present advancement and the probable cost of the establishment; and the economies and advantages to be anticipated from it. —

On each of these points your committee ask leave to make such statements as facts authorize; or as their experience and reflections have suggested.

1. In relation to the selection of a place for locating the establishment, your Committee were authorized to take any unappropriated land of the Town, or to purchase any other spot, within the town, which they should deem a better location: — In both cases, they were limited to take or buy, *not less than Fifty acres.*

As there were no unappropriated lands of the Town, of that extent, except those on the Neck, your committee proceeded to make a [**415**] personal examination of these lands. They found that these lands were, with the exception of about three acres, wholly salt-water flats, to bring which into any advantageous cultivation, would require great previous expenditures, in ditches and embankments. Other objections to the situation unnecessary to detail, occurred, which would have been, of themselves, conclusive against the location. The excellence and unexampled adaptation of the situation which they were fortunate enough to obtain, put, however, all other considerations out of the question; combining as it did, not only every anticipated convenience, but the most unquestionable economy. It was impossible for the committee to hesitate concerning their duty, in fulfilling this part of their trust; — there being, on the question of the superiority, in both respects, of the location chosen, to any the town lands on the Neck afforded, a perfect unanimity of opinion, in the committee.

The spot selected was a tract of land at South Boston, containing Fifty-three acres, owned by Samuel Brown, Esq. lying nearly in the form of a parallelogram, and extending from the road, leading to Dorchester point to the harbour. The centre of the tract was a small rising ground, sloping gradually for an almost equal distance, southerly to the road, and northerly to the harbour. The land was [**416**] excellent comprehending as much variety of soil, as could be expected, within such limits, and is for all the objects of the contemplated institution one of the most eligible spots, possible. The whole within one and a half miles, water, and two and a half, land, communication, of the centre of the town — The price at which it was purchased was Six Thousand dollars; a rate, little more than one hundred and sixteen dollars an acre; and a price, which, considering the quality of the lands, their proximity to the centre of the town, and the extraordinary beauty of the prospect of the surrounding country, they commanded, was far less than their real value; and which the committee are authorized to say that the Town may, at any moment, receive for them, after deducting, should such a measure be deemed expedient, any small quantity for the accommodation of the building, now erecting.

The only real objection to the location, arising from the toll paid at South Boston Bridge, was obviated by an application to the Proprietors of that Institution, who readily passed a vote exempting forever all persons, horses and Vehicles, from toll passing to or from, the House of Industry, on business of the establishment.

In executing this part of their trust and in purchasing another tract of land, [**417**] instead of taking the lands on the Neck, your committee, in addition to the reasons, above assigned, were

influenced, also, by a conviction of the superior value of these last mentioned lands, as a productive fund to the town. This anticipation of theirs, they are happy to state, events have justified; as they are authorized by the chairman of the board of Selectmen to state that Fifty-eight Thousand feet of those lands on the Neck, which your committee were thus authorized to take, have since sold by that board, at a rate, at which, if only *three acres* are sold, the proceeds of those *three acres* will exceed by more than a thousand dollars, the whole purchase money paid by your committee for their *Fifty three acres.* And that the Town may be assured, that there is nothing deceptive, in this statement, your committee are also authorized to state, that the committee of the lands on the Neck, have been offered and have refused, considering it less than their value for the residue of the three acres, a sum, which will more than exceed the whole of the said purchase money.

Your Committee apprehend that they need not add any thing to these facts to establish the propriety of their proceedings, in relation to this part of their commission.

2. In relation to the size, quality and position of the building, on the tract of land [**418**] purchased, your committee took for their guide the considerations suggested in the report of the former committee above alluded to, viz. "the permanent interest of the town and the ultimate success of the institution"—"the accommodation of at least two hundred persons,"—"that the place adopted should be such as to be capable of being extended should it hereafter be deemed expedient,"—"that the buildings should be so constructed as to provide for the separation and distinct accommodation of the different classes and sexes of those, for whom it was destined.

For this purpose they deemed a building, not less than Two hundred and twenty feet long, and Forty three feet wide, and Twenty nine feet high, as small as any fair construction of the views of the Town, indicated, by their vote, could justify. The building they have therefore commenced on those dimensions.

The material they selected in stone, which being laid rough and only dimension, was found cheaper than brick, and preferable both on account of durability and dryness. It was, originally, contemplated to erect only the centre of the building and one of the wings, leaving the remaining wing to be erected subsequently; and also [**419**] that the length of the building should be only *two hundred feet*, and the estimates of the former committee were made, on that basis.— But upon consultations with architects, it was found wholly impracticable, to erect two thirds of that building now, and one third of it, afterwards, without endangering its strength and symmetry, in consequence of the inevitable difference in the settling of different parts,

erected at different times. A building of the entire dimensions was not, in the opinion of the committee, larger than the objects, proposed in its erection, would require. And if circumstances rendered it inexpedient to finish this wing at once, its space could not fail to be greatly commodious, either as a store or working room. The present expense of carrying up and covering the external walls bore in the opinion of your committee no comparison with the advantages arising from erecting the whole building at once. So also, on the revisal of the whole plan, your committee found that by adding Twenty feet to its length, an increase of accommodation, far exceeding the additional expense, would be obtained. They, therefore, did not hesitate to adopt both these alterations, as unquestionable and important improvements, in the original plan, notwithstanding they would occasion a considerable augmentation of the expense, beyond the [**420**] estimate of the former committee.—

In locating the building on the land, they placed it at the extreme North Easterly corner, from four principal considerations — 1st. there was here a site, very suitable for the building and surrounded by land, excellently adapted for a garden. 2d. It adjoined the harbour and made the water communication easy and expeditious. 3d. It was removed from the high road, and thus the tenants would be less exposed to the inspection of travellers and kept in greater retirement and safety. 4th. It left the town free to decide, as it might see fit, hereafter upon experience, in relation to the residue of the land; so that, if it chose at any time, to abandon the cultivation of the land or to apply it to other uses, or to dispose of it, the building, in its present location, would interfere with no such arrangement.

3. In relation to the monies already expended it appears, by the report of the Treasurer of the committee, that there has been

paid for Fifty three acres of land - - - - - -	$6000
For materials and labour - - - - - - - - -	9700
Making a gross aggregate of expenditures to the present time - - - - - - - - - - - - -	15.700
And leaving an unexpended balance in the hands of the Committee of the former appropriation of -	4.300
	$20.000

[**421.**] 4. In relation to the adequacy of the present appropriation for the object, the present advancement and the probable cost of the establishment and the economies and advantages to be anticipated from it, your committee have great satisfaction in stating that experience has shown that the estimates of the former committee were correct, for a building of the dimensions,

by them contemplated. Had not the experience and the more minute examination of all the circumstances, connected with the subject, resulting from the duty and responsibility of erecting the building, led your present committee to enlarge that plan and erect at once all the external walls, for the reasons above detailed, the appropriation suggested by the former committee would have been sufficient, for the present year, as stated by that committee. Nor if, as authorized, by the vote of the Town, your present committee had taken the land on the Neck, would any additional appropriation have been necessary, the present year. It does not appear, in making those estimates, that the purchase of so valuable and in all respects so eligible a tract of land, as that at South Boston, was contemplated. Your Committee, however, did not deem it their duty to be deterred, by the estimates or calculations of that committee, from effecting an operation, so highly advantageous to the Town as that at South Boston, [422] in the purchase, which has been already stated to the Town; — all the Town lands on the Neck, being then left unincumbered, and by the sale of *three acres* of which more than the whole purchase money, paid for the *fifty three* acres will be reimbursed to the Town. Considering that the lands thus purchased, at South Boston, may now, and at all times, be sold for more money, than that given for them, after reserving any small quantity of land for the use of the establishment, your committee do not deem that the House of Industry is at present chargeable, under all the circumstances, with more than the balance of the appropriation, after deducting the purchase money: viz. with the sum of *Fourteen Thousand* Dollars.

One or two other circumstances, also connected with the location, or with the arrangements of the present committee, have occasioned, unavoidably, expenses, unanticipated in the former estimates.

The exposure of the situation to depredation upon the materials, collected for building, rendered the establishment of a superintendent on the premises, important, and a small house, which will be useful, at all times to the Institution, has been erected [423] for his residence on the land, at an expense of *six hundred dollars.*

It was also necessary to enable the establishment to derive all the advantages, resulting from the water communication, that a wharf should be erected. This, in conformity with the principal that whatever is done for a Town should be executed in a form, calculated to be beneficial to posterity, as well as to the present times, has been finished, with permanent materials and in a most substantial manner. The cost of this, not included in the estimate, was *Fourteen hundred dollars.*

The erection of the additional wing and the extension of the building, beyond the plan originally contemplated, in the estimates, will increase the expense between *five and six thousand dollars.* Notwithstanding these different items of unanticipated expense, (for all of which the Town will receive a complete remuneration in the strength, durability and greater accommodation of the building) your committee have the satisfaction to state that an additional appropriation, equal to that paid for the land, viz. *Six thousand dollars*, will be amply sufficient to meet all the expenditures the present year. They are induced to name this sum, because such a grant, they are informed, may be made without [424] any change in the fiscal arrangements of the Town, there now existing an unexpended balance of an appropriation, for a vegetable market, which will not be wanted the present year, of that amount.

With respect to the present advancement and probable cost of the establishment, your committee have to state that, notwithstanding the late period of the season, at which the determination of the Town was made and the delay which necessarily occurred, in fixing upon the location, purchasing the land, and making the contracts, and also some difficulties, which have happened in the performance of those contracts, the building has advanced with great repidity; and the work has been executed with fidelity, and, as far as your committee can judge, will be, in every respect such, as will be honorable to the Town, and suitable for the purpose of the establishment. It is now advancing to the third story, and will be covered in and completed in the course of the ensuing autumn and winter. —

In relation to the probable cost of the institution, your committee will be in a condition to speak, as they apprehend precisely and definitely, in their report to the Town in May next. In a new undertaking of this [425] extensive character, circumstances will continually occur, tending to increase the expenditure beyond the estimate; arising not only from the usual deficiency of calculations, on these topics, but also from new views of accommodation, or of adaptation of arrangements for permanent economy or convenience, suggested by the progress of the building, of which it will be the duty of every committee, charged with its erection, to take advantage. Your committee have not, however, in this case, from any thing their experience has suggested, any reason to apprehend that the expenditure will, in any material degree, exceed the estimates, as modified by this report, except in case of new views of accommodation, or interest, occurring in the progress of the concern, such as have been already stated, and for which the town will be remunerated in the improved state of the establishment. But these, according to the present views of your committee cannot be very great in number or important in amount; and of little, or no consequence,

when taken in connection with all the great and wise purposes, which the Town has aimed to effect, in commencing this institution.

In the expenditure of the money entrusted to them, your committee have applied every principle of wise economy, the nature [426] of the undertaking justified. For this purpose, at one of their first meetings, they passed a vote, by which every member of the committee was precluded from having, directly, or indirectly, any concern or profit, in any contract, made under their authority; intending thereby, to give to the Town a pledge, that no consideration, but those of the public service should influence any of their arrangements, or expenditures. The great principle, which has regulated all their proceedings in this respect, has been strength, durability and a permanent accommodation; with out special regard to the gratification of taste, or to architectural effect.

In relation to the economies and advantages to be anticipated from this establishment, your committee cannot close this report, without recurring to them, and recalling to the minds of their fellow citizens the nature and object of the institution. — Every consideration, which has occurred, in the progress of the work, has convinced your committee of its importance, its necessity and of its being indispensable to any hope, or to the success of any plan, for the improving the morals, or to ameliorating the condition of the poor. Under this conviction, they have not considered it in the light of making a saving, in the [427] whole expenditures of the Town; although they have no doubt, that it will ultimately produce this effect. Their view of the subject is of a broader cast, and of a more elevated character. They have deemed that an institution, such as the one proposed, destined to receive, restrain, and to employ, that unhappy portion of the community, who are degraded to the ranks of beggary, by vice, or idleness, is, in every society, a moral duty; and in a republican form of government, is connected intimately with the very principle, on which its preservation depends. In such a form of government, the great object of attention is the character and condition of the mass of the community. Whatever tends to contaminate, to corrupt, or to demoralize the mass, has a direct effect, not only on the happiness and prosperity of a state, but also on its safety; on the security of property, of life, and of liberty; all of which are, in a republic, directly dependent upon the moral character and condition of the people.

The wise policy of our ancestors, from the earliest records of their history, made the establishment of work-houses indispensable. Owing to the smallness of their early population, and the consequent scantiness of poverty and crime, those institutions

were put under the control of overseers of the poor. From which association, two, unhappy consequences, naturally, and inevitably resulted.

[428.] First, Almshouses became connected with the ideas of punishment and disgrace, not only in the eyes of the tenants, but also in those of the community. Hence arose a great reluctance, in the worthy and respectable poor, at becoming inmates; and also a like reluctance, in overseers, to oblige such persons to become residents. From both causes the number of out-of-door pensioners has been increased; and of all modes of providing for the poor, this has been, every where, found, the most wasteful, and expensive; and the most encouraging of applications, to become pensioners, on the public bounty.

A second effect of this association was that as society increased, Almshouses became thronged with tenants, from idleness or vice; who from the character of the institution, as charitable, claimed, and for the most part, obtained indulgence, as objects of pity, when their deserts were restraint and coercive employment, as being, in reality, objects of correction, and often of punishment.

In a society increased and rapidly increasing, like that of the capital of Massachusetts, your committee can have no question that an institution, like that now in progress, is, not only wise, but indispensable, and that its utility ought not, and cannot be tested by [429] any narrow scale of pecuniary expense and saving. Your committee have not, therefore, deemed themselves, as proceeding in this building and institution, as though it were an experiment, which, if it failed, might be abandoned, but on the contrary, with a conviction that it was an institution permanent and perpetual in its nature, of which the Town ought never to be destitute; and in which, of consequence, they ought to have reference, in all their plans and arrangements to this, its real destination and character.

Whether the inmates of such an institution can best and most profitably be employed, on the land or in manufactures, is a question, in the opinion of some members of the community, problematical. And, although, your committee, from reflection and reasoning upon the subject, as well as from the success of other, similar institutions, in Massachusetts, are satisfied that employing them, in cultivating the earth, is the most healthy, the most conducive to moral habits, and the most economical, yet they have so arranged the plan and location of the establishment, as to be adapted to both, or to either, of these employments, as the experience of future times and the wisdom of the Town may decide.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Josiah Quincy
James Savage
Henry J. Oliver

[430.] Francis Welsh — Thomas Howe
William Thurston — Abram Babcock
Samuel A. Wells — Benjamin Rich
David W. Child — John Bellows
John French — George Darracott

Boston 22d October 1821 —
Voted, That the thanks of the town be given to the chairman and members of the Committee for erecting a House of Industry, for the intelligent and able manner, in which they have conducted the business entrusted to them, and that they be requested to proceed in the undertaking.

Voted, That the Report be printed and distributed among the citizens.

Voted, That the sum of Six Thousand Dollars, voted and assessed upon the Inhabitants, for the purpose of erecting a new Vegetable Market, be, and the same hereby is, transferred and appropriated to the erection of the House of Industry, and the said amount of six thousand dollars, in addition to that previously voted, be placed at the disposal of the Committee appointed by the town for building the House of Industry. —

The Meeting was then adjourned to Monday, the 10th day of December next at ten o'clock, A.M.—

[431.] Monday December 10th 1821.

Met according to Adjournment.

The Moderator stated to the inhabitants, that since the Adjournment, the Selectmen had issued a Warrant for calling a Town Meeting, at the request of a number of citizens, to be holden at this time; The Warrant being read: — The article "To consider the expediency of augmenting the Town Watch during the winter season" — was taken up, and after some debate, it was Voted, That the Selectmen be authorized to double the Watch, until the first day of April next.—

On the Application of the Directors of the Mill Pond Corporation, the —
Hon. Artemas Ward — Enoch Silsby, and
" Jonathan Hunnewell — Joseph Lovering Esquires,
" Peter C. Brooks
were appointed a Committee to treat with the Proprietors of the

Mill Pond, respecting the interest of the Town therein; — and to report at the adjournment of this meeting. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be, and they hereby are, constituted a Committee with the authority to fix the boundary lines between the [432] several towns of (Roxbury,) Brookline, Cambridge & (Dorchester) respectively and the Town of Boston. —

And whereas, in consequence of the building of the Great Western Avenue some new relations have come into view concerning this town's boundaries; and it may become necessary to refer any matter on which there may be a difference of opinion, between those persons who are as above authorized to represent and act for the Town of Boston, and those persons who are or may be appointed to represent and act for the above mentioned towns or either of them. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be, and hereby are authorized and empowered, to appoint Referees on the part of this town to settle any matter which may in their opinion require to be settled by Referees, in relation to the boundary lines between this town and the Towns of Dorchester, Roxbury, Brookline and Cambridge respectively. —

The following Report was made by the School Committee — viz —

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in Town Meeting assembled; the General School Committee ask leave respectfully to Report: —

[433.] That in pursuance of a vote of the town passed on the 2nd day of July last, authorizing and empowering your Committee, to commence and establish a public school, upon the system of mutual instruction, they lost no time in taking measures to carry the proposed object into effect. —

As this measure originated principally in the statements and representations of the Committee charged with the care of the primary schools, and in the first instance at least, would probably embrace children under their particular superintendence, your Committee are solicitous to act in co-operation with that Committee, and for that purpose opened a communication and have acted in concurrence with them. Your Committee took measures to obtain the services of a Gentleman well versed in the system particularly intended to be introduced; but after writing to several of the cities of the United States, could not learn of any instructor of sufficient experience, who was disengaged. — Your Committee having been informed by one of their correspondents that a gentleman, Mr. Dale, who is principal teacher of the Lancastrian schools in Albany, would undertake to organize and establish a School, and take charge of it, until a successor could

be engaged. — This gentleman was so well recommended for his capacity and experience, and particularly for his thorough knowledge of the peculiar [434] system of instruction contemplated to be introduced, that your Committee could not hesitate about engaging him. Accordingly about the first of September, a place was fitted up for the school in the basement room of the Boylston School at Fort Hill. — This room was not so large as would have been desirable; but as it was an unoccupied public room conveniently situated, it was thought that it would be sufficiently capacious for a beginning. As soon as the room was prepared, the School was almost immediately filled, and the business of instruction commenced. Mr. Dale continued in the care and instruction of the School about five or six weeks, and left it in the care of a gentleman who appears to be well qualified to conduct it. —

The School has been in operation about two months. — Your Committee at present, hardly feel prepared to pronounce a definitive opinion of its merits; they can only say that they feel highly gratified with its prospects of success, and entertain a sanguine hope, that many of the plans and methods adopted in this school, may be extended with great benefit, to the numerous primary schools of the Town, and to all the public schools where young children are taught the rudiments of learning. They have no hesitation in saying that as yet, it well deserves care and encouragement of the [435] town. The expense of fitting up the school, of providing the necessary arraugements and materials, of procuring the temporary attendance of an instructor eminent in his profession, have been necessarily considerable, and have exhausted the appropriation of the sum of one thousand dollars, heretofore made for this object. But most of the expenses it is obvious, are merely temporary; and your Committee are of opinion that this School once established, will be a cheap and economical one. Under a full belief that it will be for the interest of the town, and tend to advance and perfect the System of education adopted by the town that this school, for the present at least should be continued, your Committee recommend the adoption of the subjoined vote: all of which is respectfully submitted. —

By order of the School Committee —
Eliphalet Williams, Chairman.

The foregoing Report, was read and accepted, — and —

Voted, That the Public School, upon the prineiple of mutual instruction, commenced in pursuance of a vote of the Town passed the second day of July last, be placed under the care and superintendence of the School Committee to be continued, if they deem it expedient; that they be authorised to appoint a Master

therefor, and fix his compensation, and that the said school be put generally upon the same footing with the other public schools of the Town. —

[436.] The Committee appointed on the 22d. day of Octobor last "To take the whole subject of the two reports presented to the Town into full consideration; to consider all the facts and recommendations therein contained, and to report to the Town at a future meeting, a complete system relating to the administration of Town and County," made a Report which was read. — A lengthy debate ensued; — after which, on motion, it was — Voted, That the Report of the Committee, appointed by the Town on the 22d. of October last, "to take into consideration and report to the town a complete System relating to the administration of the Town & County," be re-committed to the same Committee, with [the] addition of one person to be chosen from each Ward, with instructions to report a system of Municipal Government for this town, with such powers, privileges and immunities, as are contemplated by the amendment of the Constitution, authorizing the General Court to constitute City Governments. —

The following Gentlemen were chosen from the several Wards, in addition to the former Committee — viz —

Ward N°. 1. George Darracott
2. Redford Webster
3. Thomas Badger
4. James Davis
5. Henry Farnam
6. Michael Roulstone
7. John Cotton
8. Lewis G. Pray
9. Benjamin Russell
10. William Sturgis
11. Daniel Messinger
12. Gerry Fairbanks

[437]

The Meeting was then adjourned, to Monday the 24th day of December current, at 10, o'clock A.M.—

Monday December 24th 1821 —

Met according to adjournment.—

Mr. Tudor, Secretary to the Committee appointed at the last meeting "To report a system of Municipal Government for this town," stated that the Committee had attended to the duty assigned them, and should have been ready to report, at this Meeting, if there had been time to have had the report printed and distributed among the Inhabitants, but as the report could not be distributed before Wednesday next, he moved that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday next, at 10, o'clock A.M. which motion was carried; and the Meeting was accordingly adjourned to Monday the 31st day of December current, at 10, o'clock, A.M.—

[438.] Monday December 31st 1821.—

Met according to Adjournment —

The Hon[l]. M[r]. Sullivan, Chairman of the Committee appointed "To report what is usually called a System of Municipal Government for this Town, with such powers, privileges, and immunities as are contemplated by the Amendment of the Constitution, authorizing the General Court to constitute City Governments." read a Report, which had been printed and distributed among the Inhabitants. whereupon it was —

Voted, That the final question on this Report be taken by ballot, at an adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted, That when this meeting is adjourned to take the final question by ballot, it be to Monday the 7th day of January next; the Poll to be opened at 10 o'clock A.M. and closed at 3 o'clock P.M.—

It was then voted to take up the report by Paragraphs or Sections: — an animated debate ensued, during which several alterations or amendments were made in the Report —
A motion for adjournment was made, and carried in the affirmative.—

Adjourned to tomorrow 1st January 1822 at 10, o'clock A.M.—

1822.

[439.] Tuesday January 1st 1822.—

Met according to Adjournment. 10, o'clock A.M.—

The Report of the Committee was further discussed and several additional alterations and amendments made.—

Adjourned to Tomorrow, 10 o'clock A.M.—

Wednesday January 2[d]. 1822 —

Met according to adjournment 10, o'clock A.M.

The debate on the Report was finished: and it was *Voted*, That the Report as amended be published in all the News-papers, every day until and on the day of voting — viz. Monday the 7th day of January 1822, together with the several resolves which are to be voted upon; — and that the Selectmen prepare ballots in manner following, viz —

1st Resolve,-- Shall there be a City Government? —

2nd Resolve — Shall the elective U. S. and State officers be chosen in Wards? —

3rd Resolve — Shall the City Council decide the number of Representatives —

4th Resolve — Shall the Town be a County and have a Police Court.—

5th Resolve — Shall the name be altered from Town of Boston, to City of Boston.—

[440.] Voted, That the Selectmen be appointed a Committee to receive sort and count, the ballots, on Monday the 7th day of January instant —

Voted, That the Selectmen cause the lists of qualified voters to be prepared; and also cause two citizens from each Ward to attend the meeting of the inhabitants on Monday next, to check the lists of voters as practised in the election of State Officers.—

Voted, That the Selectmen cause the Town of Boston, to be divided into twelve Wards, each containing as nearly as may be, an equal number of Inhabitants in each.—

Report.

As amended by the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, at a legal Meeting held on the 31st. of December, and the two following days —

The enlarged Committee who were instructed by a vote of the Town meeting, held on the 10th. of December, "To report what is usually called a System of Municipal Government for this Town, with such powers, privileges and immunities, as are contemplated by the amendment of the Constitution, authorizing the General Court to constitute City governments," have attended assiduously to the duty with which they were charged, and now submit the following Report:—

[441.] In place of the first part of the former Report, which had a reference to prudential affairs, they now propose, according to their instructions, a regular representative government for the Town; in which they have endeavored to combine, after much deliberation, a plan that will secure a full representation of all the interests of the Town, in a body of men annually chosen, acting for the citizens, with and by their authority, in assessing Taxes, making expenditures, and enacting by-laws; and also an efficient, responsible, and active executive officer, with a suitable council, for the administration of the concerns of the Town.

The following is an abstract of a representative plan of government, in which care has been taken to introduce all the fundamental and essential principles, that will be embraced by the establishment of a City government for this Town, conformably to the following general outline.

That this corporation shall be denominated "the City of Boston." That the administration of the fiscal, prudential and municipal concern of this corporation, subject to the limitations hereinafter mentioned, shall be vested in one principal officer to be denominated the Mayor.—

One select body to consist of eight persons, [442] to be denominated the Board of Aldermen.

One more numerous body to be denominated the Board of Common Councilmen.—

The whole in their aggregate capacity, to be denominated the City Council.— That the Mayor shall be chosen by the citizens, voting in their respective wards; and shall hold his office for the term of one year, and shall have a suitable compensation to be determined by the City Council.— Provided, that in the case of the resignation, decease, or permanent or temporary absence, or inability of the Mayor, the City Council may elect a person to supply his place, as the occasion may require.—

That the Board of Aldermen shall be chosen by general ticket, by the qualified voters of the City, voting in wards, for the term of one year.—

That the Board of Common Councilmen shall be chosen by the qualified voters of the City, in, and for their respective Wards; each ward having a right to choose four.—

That the Mayor and Aldermen shall compose one Board, shall sit and act together as one body; at all meetings of which the Mayor shall preside; in his absence the Board to choose a Chairman for the time being. They shall choose a Clerk, whose duty it shall be to keep a journal of their proceedings. Such [443] Clerk to have all the powers, and perform all the duties now belonging to the Town Clerk of Boston, except in cases where it is otherwise expressly provided.—

That the Board of Common Councilmen shall sit and act together as a separate body, and be organized by the election of a Presiding Officer and Clerk.—

That the administration of police, and the executive powers of the corporation generally, including all the powers now by law

vested in the Selectmen of the Town of Boston, shall be vested in, and exercised by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City, as hereby constituted.

That all other powers of the town of Boston, as a municipal corporation, except those relating to elections, and those otherwise specially provided for, shall be vested in the Mayor and Aldermen, and Common Council, in City Council convened, to be exercised by concurrent vote, each Board as hereby constituted having a negative upon the other.—

More especially, they shall have power to make all needful and salutary by-laws; to lay and assess taxes for all purposes, for which towns are by law required or [444] authorized to assess, and grant money;

To lay and assess taxes for all purposes, for which county taxes may by law be levied and assessed, whenever the City shall alone compose one county;

To provide for the assessment and collection of all such taxes;

To appropriate all public monies, and provide for the disbursement thereof, and take all suitable measures to ensure a just and prompt account thereof;

To provide for the appointment and choice of all necessary officers, not otherwise provided for; to prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation;

To choose a Register of Deeds, whenever the City shall alone compose one county;

To have all the powers now by law vested in the Board of Health, and provide for the exercise of the same;

To have the care and superintendence of the public buildings, and the custody and management of all the property of the City, to lease or sell the same, (except the Common and Faneuil Hall,) and purchase property, real or personal, in the name and for the use of the City, whenever its interest or convenience may, in their judgment, require it.

That all sittings of the Common Council, and of the Mayor, and Aldermen, when not engaged in executive business, shall be public.

[445.] That the City Treasurer shall be chosen by the Mayor, and Aldermen and Common Council in Convention.

That the Firewards shall be chosen by the citizens, in wards, in equal numbers to each ward, to be determined by the City Council; provided there be not less than three to each ward: That there shall be one Overseer of the Poor, & one Member of the School Committee, chosen in each ward. And that the Mayor and Aldermen, and School Committee, shall have the care and superintendence of the Public Schools.

That all Boards and Officers shall be accountable to the City Council, for the expenditure of all monies, committed to their charge.

That the City Council shall publish and distribute annually, a statement of all receipts and expenditures of public monies, and a statement of all City property.—

That in all cases of the appointment of officers, by the Mayor and Aldermen, the Mayor shall have the power of nomination; such nomination, however, to be confirmed or rejected by the Board. Provided, however, that no officer, whose salary shall be paid out of the City Treasury, shall be, at the time of his election, a Member of the Board of Aldermen, or of Common Council.—

That it shall be the duty of the City [446] Council, seasonably in each year, to meet in Convention, and determine the number of Representatives which it may be expedient for the Corporation to send to the General Court, within its constitutional limits, and seasonably to publish such determination, which shall be conclusive; and the number thus determined, shall be specified in the warrant calling a meeting for the election of Representatives.

That all elections of State and United States Officers, shall continue to be held as heretofore, by general meetings of the qualified voters; at which meetings the Mayor and Aldermen of the City shall preside; or in ward meetings, as the citizens may decide by ballot, at the adjourned meeting on the 7th.

That general meetings of the citizens, qualified to vote in City affairs, may from time to time be held, to consult upon the common good, to give instructions to their Representatives, and to take all lawful measures to obtain a redress of any grievances, according to the right secured to the people, by the Constitution of this Commonwealth. That such meetings shall be duly warned by the Mayor and Aldermen, upon the requisition of fifty qualified voters of said City.—

That all warrants for the meetings of [447] Citizens for municipal purposes, either in general meetings or in wards, shall be issued by the Mayor and Aldermen.—

That a new arrangement of wards shall be made as soon as may be, dividing the town into twelve wards, in such manner as to have equal numbers of inhabitants in each ward, as nearly as may be, consistently with convenient and well-defined limits.—

That for the orderly conducting of ward meetings, and elections therein, each ward shall be organized by the election of one Warden, one Clerk, and five Inspectors, all to be chosen annually, by the qualified voters in their respective wards. That neither the Mayor, nor any Alderman, or Common Councilman, shall, at the same time, hold any other office under the City Government.—

The Committee do not deem it necessary to go into explanations of the system here described, because its operation will be sufficiently obvious to a community, who are in the habit of considering constitutional forms and principles. They will only ask the attention of their fellow citizens to one observation: The plan proposed, differs strikingly, and they hope advantageously, from most if not all other plans of City Government, in keeping the judicial department entirely [448] distinct from the legislative and executive. This is a great principle in our state and national governments, and affords a peculiar security to the rights of the citizens, upon which it is not necessary to enlarge.—

The second part of the part of the former report, related to a new organization of the County, and the establishment of a Police Court, to have the cognizance of all civil and criminal suits, now acted upon by Justices of the Peace. They have only one amendment to make to this part of that report, which is, that the jurisdiction of the proposed magistrates should be enlarged in the cases of notes of hand and specialties, to the sum of one hundred dollars.—

They would recommend the same plan contained in the former report, that for the purpose of more convenient discussion, the substance of the alterations should be contained in five resolves, viz: —

Resolved, first, That we approve of having an alteration in the form of town government, according to the report, (as amended) made to the town, the 24th December 1821.—

Resolved, second, That the United States and Commonwealth's elective officers, shall [449] be chosen by the citizens, in ward meetings, and not in town meetings as heretofore practised.

Resolved, third, That the City Council, shall annually determine the number of Representatives to be voted for to represent the town in the General Court.—

Resolved, fourth, By the inhabitants of Boston, in town meeting assembled, that we approve of the proposition that the town should form a county by itself; that the Treasurer of the Town should also be the Treasurer for the county; that the Court of Sessions should be abolished, and its duties transferred to other bodies; and that a Board of Magistrates, to be called the Police Court of Boston, and paid by salary, shall be established, who shall have cognizance of all criminal and civil causes, now brought before Justices of the Peace, and whose jurisdiction in civil suits shall, in the cases of all notes of hand and specialties, extend to the sum of one hundred dollars; and our Senators and Representatives in the General Court are hereby instructed to endeavor to procure the passage of a bill for these purposes, on the principles, and with the limitations, laid down in the report submitted to the town, the 10th day of December. *And the Selectmen are hereby authorized to appoint a committee, to prepare a petition and Bill for this purpose.—

*see page 451.

[**450.**] Resolved, fifth, That this question be determined by ballot, viz.: Shall the name of the town be changed from "the Town of Boston." to "the City of Boston."

The Committee repeat, from the most obvious dictates of reason and justice, the recommendation of the former report, that the vote should be given by ballot, on the five resolves, saying *yes* or *no*, at an adjourned meeting for this purpose, after the discussion shall have taken place; — which meeting shall only be held for the reception of these ballots. And they will only add, an earnest expression of their hope, that as it can occasion to the most busy of the inhabitants, but a slight interruption of their occupations, to give in their ballots, that every citizen will perform his duty on this important occasion, by voting on one side or the other, so that the expression of public opinion may be complete and decisive.—

Resolved, By the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in town meeting assembled, that we approve of having an alteration in the Government of the Town, by the establishment of a form of City Government, composed of a Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council, to have the management of the affairs of the Town conformably to the plan detailed in [**451**] the report made to the town, on the 24th December, (as amended at this meeting) and our Senators and Representatives in the General Court are hereby instructed to endeavor to procure the passage of a bill at the next session of the Legislature, to carry this resolve into effect; and the Selectmen are hereby authorized to appoint a committee, to prepare a petition and bill for this purpose.—

* The second Bill which they recommend to be applied for, has a reference to the affairs of the County, and to the administration of justice in its first stages. It will provide for making the County of Suffolk to consist of the Town of Boston only: To abolish the Court of Sessions, and transfer its several powers to different bodies; — To make the Town Treasurer the Treasurer for the County: And give the cognizance of petty criminal and civil causes to a Board of Magistrates, whose income will not depend on the business they transact, and who will therefore have no temptation to encourage frivolous prosecutions and litigation; but who will receive a regular salary for the transaction of the criminal department, sufficient to secure the services of able, upright men.—

In thus recommending that the Court of Sessions should be abolished they wish [**452**] distinctly to state, that [it] is not from any blame which attaches to that court, in whose transactions they have found nothing to censure, but which Court the Committee believe has acted with fidelity towards the public; but because its agency will be no longer necessary, when the County shall comprise only one Town; and its various functions can be transferred to other bodies, with advantage and economy to the town.— A very considerable saving will be annually made to the town and State by this arrangement; yet, however great this saving may be, it will be one of the least of the benefits that will result from the change. The present mode of administering justice in its first stages, is attended with many growing abuses; and though they have already attained to a very considerable extent, they must, unless prevented by an entire change in the system, produce eventually the most mischievous and immoral consequences.

The second Bill, the Committee propose should provide for the following general objects, viz.: —

That the County of Suffolk should contain the Town of Boston only, and the offices of Treasurer for the Town and County be united: That the civil and criminal business transacted by the Justices of the Peace [**453**] in the County, shall be confided to a Police Court, composed of three able and discreet Magistrates, with salaries to be paid by the County: That in the distribution of the powers now exercised by the Court of Sessions, all those which relate to the estimating and assessing of County taxes, will be confided to the Town, and exercised in the same manner as the power of providing for, and assessing Town taxes: That the Selectmen of Boston, shall have the power of granting licences, and all the power of the said Court, in the erection and maintenance of Prisons and other County Buildings, and in the disposition and management of all other County property: That the Court of Common Pleas shall have all the jurisdiction of said

Court, in relation to trials which may require a jury: And that the duty of examining all County accounts, connected in any manner with the administration of justice; of assigning limits to the jail yard, and in general all the residue of the powers of the Court of Sessions not otherwise provided for, and which though they may be little more than nominal, cannot be exercised by Selectmen, without their being organized as a judicial body, shall be confided to a court composed of the Justices of the Police Court, and such other Judges of the Courts of the County, as may be connected with them for that purpose.—

Adjourned to Monday next, the 7th day of January current at 10 oclock A.M.—

[**454.**] Monday January 7th 1822. 10. o'clock, A.M.—

Met according to Adjournment.—

The Moderator stated that this adjourned meeting being held for the sole purpose of receiving votes upon the several resolves in the amended report, before the town, the qualified voters would now proceed to bring in their ballots accordingly, and that the Poll would be closed at three o'clock P.M.—

At the close of the Poll, it appeared that there was for the

1st	Resolve - - - -	2805	Yeas	2006	Nays
2nd	ditto - - - -	2611	"	2195	"
3rd	ditto - - - -	2690	"	2128	"
4th	ditto - - - -	4557	"	257	"
5th	ditto - - - -	2727	"	2087	"

The Moderator stated the number of votes, for, and against, each article, and declared the whole report accepted by the Town.—

Voted, That the thanks of the Town, be given to the respective Committees, who were concerned in drawing up the several reports, on the subject of City Government, and judicial Police.—

The Meeting was then Dissolved.

Thomas Clark, Town Clerk.—

[**455.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to vote in town affairs, held at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 14th day of January, A.D. 1822. 10 o'clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the meeting read.—

The petition of John H. Wheeler, and others, "That the Town would petition the Legislature to alter or repeal the Law, regulating the building within the Town." was read — and after debate, it was *Voted*, To petition the Hon^{l}. Legislature, so far to alter or repeal the existing Laws, regulating the building within the Town of Boston, as to permit the Citizens thereof, to erect wooden buildings, upon an elevation not exceeding eighteen inches above the level of the Streets.— of eighteen feet posts, with the addition of a roof not to exceed a regular pitch of one third.— which roof shall be slated, and when two or more buildings shall be joined together, there shall be a brick partition wall, of at least eight inches in thickness; and in each and every building so erected there shall be one or more windows, or a scuttle in the roof thereof.—

Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be requested to prepare a petition to the Hon^{l}. Legislature conformable to the above vote.

Voted, That our Senators & Representatives [**456**] be directed to use their influence in procuring the passage of a Bill by the Hon^{l}. Legislature conformable to the above vote of the Town.

Voted, That the Selectmen be requested, to cause to be published and distributed to the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, a correct List — stating the amount of Real and Personal Estate on which the inhabitants of the Town have been valued, doomed, assessed and taxed for the year 1821 — And also all abatements that have been made from the estimation if any, previous to the first day of January 1822.

The meeting was then Dissolved.

Attest, Tho. Clark, Town Clerk.

[**457.**] At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, holden at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 4th day of March A.D. 1822 — 10, o'clock A.M.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

This Meeting was called in conformity to the twenty third, and twenty first Sections of an Act entitled "An Act to establish the City of Boston" passed on the 23^{d} day of February 1822.—

The Selectmen presiding; the Chairman stated to the Inhabitants, that the "Act for establishing the City of Boston," had been printed and distributed with the Notification for calling the Meeting;—Whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the reading of the Act be dispensed with.

The Chairman submitted the following questions to the qualified voters of the Town, and requested them to write yes, or no, against each Question.—

1st. Question — Will you accept the Charter granted by the Legislature entitled "An Act to establish the City of Boston."—

2d. Question — "Shall the Election for State and United States' Officers be holden in General Meeting."—

Voted, That the Poll be closed at 3 o'clock.—

At the close of the Poll it appeared, that [458] the whole number of ballots given in on the first question, was forty six hundred and seventy eight — 4678 — viz. Yeas 2797 — Nays 1881 — Majority 916 — for accepting the City Charter.—

The whole number of votes given in on the second Question, was forty seven hundred — 4700 — viz. Yeas 1887 — Nays 2813 — Majority 926 — against electing State and United States' Officers, in General Meeting.—

The state of the votes was declared by the Chairman of the Selectmen; and then the Meeting was

Dissolved

Attest Tho' Clark, Town Clerk.—

[459.] At a Legal Meeting of the Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, holden at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 6th day of March A.D. 1822 — 10, o'clock A.M. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.—

It was moved and Voted that the Selectmen be requested to preside at this Meeting.

The Petition of Asa Lewis and others, "To see if the Town will vote, to petition the Hon. Legislature at their next Session, so far to alter or repeal the existing laws regulating the building

within the said town, as to permit the citizens thereof to erect wooden buildings to be occupied as dwelling houses, of 18 feet posts, and roof of a regular pitch of one third; said buildings, in no case, to be elevated more than eighteen inches from the level of the street to the bottom of the sill; — in no case to be more than thirty feet from the bottom of the sill to the highest point of the roof; in no case to be more than twenty five by forty feet upon the ground. — the roof to be slated, and to have at least one window or scuttle in the same. — Whenever two or more buildings shall be joined together, there shall be a brick partition wall of at least eight inches in thickness; — and, whenever such building shall be erected within six feet of any other wooden buildings of more than ten feet posts, it shall have a brick wall [460] of the like thickness on the side so adjoining." was read.

A motion was made and seconded, That the prayer of the Petitioners be granted; and that the question be taken by written ballots, at this time and place: — The question being put, passed in the affirmative. —

Voted, That the Poll be closed at 2 o'clock.

The Chairman of the Selectmen stated the Question thus. "As many gentlemen as are in favor of granting the request of the Petitioners will write on a ballot — *yes* —

As many as are opposed to granting the prayer of the Petitioners will write on their ballot, *no* —

At the close of the Poll it appeared that the whole number of votes given in was — 3411 — viz 2837 yeas and 574 Nays — so the question passed in the affirmative. —

Voted, That the gentlemen now composing the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a committee to present the Petition of the Town or City, to the Hon. Legislature at their next session. —

Voted, That the petitioners be empowered to appear by counsel on behalf of the Town, or City, to advocate, and defend the petition before the Hon. Legislature.

[461.] Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Selectmen, for their able, and impartial conduct, while presiding at this meeting.

The Meeting was then dissolved.

Attest, Tho' Clark, Town Clerk.

[462.] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the City (Town) of Boston, holden on the 28th day of March A.D. 1822. 10 o'clock A.M.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.—

Hon[l]. Josiah Quincy was chosen Moderator.

Hon[l]. Josiah Quincy Chairman of the Committee on the House of Industry made the following Report: viz —

At a Meeting of the Committee on the subject of Pauperism and a House of Industry, holden at the Committee Room, (Faneuil Hall) Saturday March 2[d]. 1822.—

A report from the Sub-Committee appointed on the 5th February last, on the subject of the occupation of the House and grounds the ensuing year, and also what further monies may be required for completing the same, being read and considered — thereupon.

Voted, That the same be adopted and that the Chairman be instructed to request the Selectmen to call a town meeting forthwith in relation to the subject of said report —

A true extract from the records —
Attest,— Henry J. Oliver, Sec[y].

The Committee appointed by the Town to superintend the erection of a House of Industry, in obedience to that general duty of early and exact accountability, incumbent [463] upon all those entrusted with the management of public monies, ask leave to lay before their fellow citizens the present state and progress of that institution;— their views in relation to it, and what appropriation it will be expedient for the town to make, for the completion and general preparation of the establishment, the ensuing year, by way of report.

Conformably to the original estimate of the Committee, made in their first report in May last, and modified and explained by their report in October last, the appropriations made in May and October have proved ample to cover all the expenditures occurring during that year. It appears by the report of Francis Welch Esq[r]. Treasurer of the Committee, made the 15th instant, and hereto annexed, that the whole expenditures during the past year on account of the buildings, exclusive of the land, was $19,612 — leaving a balance at that time, unexpended, in his hands, of $388.—

In relation to the present condition and progress of the work, your committee have great satisfaction in stating that it is, in

every material respect, conformable to their wishes and anticipations; and that no other or greater disappointments have occurred in the progress of it, than are inevitable, and [**464**] to be expected, on occasions of this nature.

In consequence of failure on the part of some of the contractors, the workmen were prevented from completing the external covering of the centre building the last Autumn. The external walls, however, have been raised, the roofs of both wings fixed and boarded, the internal walls are carried up as high as the centre, and the upper floor and roof of the centre are also ready to be put on as soon as the season permits. The carpenters are rapidly progressing in fixing the partitions, forming the rooms, preparing the window frames, doors, sashes and floor, so as to finish the whole work as early in the present year, as, with regard to its nature and permanency, can be deemed expedient.—

As stated in their last report, your Committee have been regulated in their proceedings by regard to "strength, durability and permanent accommodation, without special attention to gratification of taste or architectural effect." They have, however, enlarged the building, for reasons stated in their last report, and sanctioned by the town, to a size, exceeding by at least one third, the dimensions originally contemplated. The weight and importance of those reasons continue to be strengthened by all the views, which have occurred to your Committee, in the course of the progress of the building. And, notwithstanding [**465**] the expenditures will, on this account, exceed the original estimates, yet the town will be amply compensated by the greater accommodations and permanent arrangements for economy or convenience, which will result.—

Similar views, in relation to the establishment, have induced your Committee to cause a barn to be erected, of small dimensions, but such as would be useful and necessary, upon whatever principle the institution should be conducted after it has been once put into operation. In addition to the general connexion of such a building with such an establishment, your Committee were induced to commence and finish that building forthwith with reference to the accommodation of the carpenters, during the winter season, thereby enabling them to use it as a work shop and a deposit for their finished materials, and expediting the whole arrangements of the ensuing Spring and Summer. This building, (sixty two feet long, forty wide, and twenty feet post,) has been accordingly erected and completed, and its cost, though not included in the original estimate, has been paid out of the expenditures of the past year.

With respect to the requisite appropriations, which will be expedient, for the present year, and the probable cost of the

establishment, your Committee apprehend, that they are now qualified to speak as definitely and precisely, as, [**466**] from the nature of the subject is possible, and sufficiently so, for all purposes of wise decision and satisfactory judgment.

The establishment will be undoubtedly completed, in all its parts and arrangements, by midsummer or early autumn. The appropriations of the present year, must have reference to its completion, and be considered as fixing the whole cost of the establishment.

In addition to the building of the wharf, the house for the superintendent, the barn, and all those circumstances, which must continually occur, in a new undertaking of this extensive character, tending continually to enhance the expenditure beyond the estimate, as specified in the former report, the increase of the building one third in its dimensions, and various items of arrangements on the land, its fencing, and general preparation have had a similar tendency, yet in the apprehension of your Committee, though making a considerable addition in the aggregate, yet none of them are of a character, when examined either in relation to their objects or details, to excite any doubt concerning their expediency.

In contemplating the whole expenditures, for the year, to complete the buildings upon the basis of the calculations heretofore made with the additions and augmentations, before specified, as also, contemplating unanticipated contingencies, in a new undertaking of this character, with the purpose [**467**] of having no deficiency within the year, and no additional application of importance, to the town, the committee recommend that the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars be put at the disposition of the Committee;— a sum somewhat exceeding the amount of their estimate; but on occasions of this kind, they are anxious, on the one hand that nothing should be omitted to fulfil all the wise designs of the town, in relation to the establishment, and they are, on the other, also anxious, that they may not be prevented from fulfilling them, acceptably, from any temporary deficiency, happening from any inadequate appropriation.—

A work of this public nature concerning which the opinions and views of many intelligent minds must be brought to coincide, and concerning the economies and accommodations of which new views are perpetually occurring, cannot be expected to be subject to the same minuteness of previous estimate, to which works of a smaller and a private nature may be reduced. With the expenditures which have already occurred, your committee have every reason to be satisfied, both as it respects the wisdom of the plans and the excellence of the execution; and in proposing this amount; it is for the purpose of enabling them to finish, without

further resort to the town, all the objects, which have been entrusted to their superintendence, in a mode, at once honorable to the Town, and complete as it respects the establishment.—

[468.] And your Committee have the great satisfaction to state, that not only the whole building has been thus far conducted and executed in a manner, wholly independent of any private or personal interest or contract on the part of those charged with the general superintendence of the work, but in a simplicity and cheapness of style, which, when its greatness and nature is contemplated, will bear a comparison in point of accommodation and economy, with any building heretofore erected by the town, and far inferior to those general estimates, which, judging from the cost of buildings of a similar extent, had been anticipated by their fellow citizens.

In making this statement and estimate, your Committee must be understood, to comprehend only, the whole cost of the building, and establishment, complete for occupation. — The powers and authorities of the present committee, in their apprehension, extend no farther. But in the present advanced stage of the undertaking, they deem it their duty and within the scope of their instructions to recall the attention of their fellow citizens to its original design, and to those arrangements, which have now become necessary, in order to put the Institution into a train of prosperous activity, in relation to the objects, for which it was originally designed; for the purpose [469] of bringing before their fellow citizens, the powers and authorities, which ought now be given and exercised for these purposes.

This Institution had its foundation in two petitions, brought forward by Thomas Howe and others, and by Joseph May and others. — The objects as specified in the former petition, were; "for the establishment of a House of Industry, Work House, or Penitentiary, where means might be afforded for the employment, instruction, and reformation of the idle or vicious poor, and of those capable of doing any thing towards their own support, and yet claim public charity." The objects, proposed by the latter, were the establishment of "a Workhouse, in some secluded situation, as a receptacle for the idle, the dissolute, and intemperate, where; under a strong and vigilant government, they may be employed and kept secluded from a mischievious intercourse with the town, their labour made to contribute to their own support, their habits improved, if not reformed, their number diminished, and the growth of the alarming evil of pauperism checked, and the public burthens ultimately lightened."

These objects, thus developed, have been the basis of two distinct reports to the Town made by the Committee, charged with the consideration of those petitions, and afterwards with the erec-

tion of the House of Industry, and have [470] been strictly kept in view, in all their plans and arrangements made upon the subject.

The great, primary objects of the Institution, your Committee have always deemed to be, moral effect, upon the idle and vicious poor.

1st. By restraining them. — 2d. By compelling them to work. — 3d. By secluding them from their old haunts and giving them new habits. 4th. By affording them moral and religious instruction suited to their age or condition. 5th. Relief to society from open drunkenness and street beggary, and the petty pilfering carried on under the forms of poverty by children of the idle and vicious poor on our wharves, in our streets, and in our Market places.

The secondary objects of this institution, in the apprehension of your committee has always been the diminution of the expenses of the town and of the burthen at present sustained, in supporting the idle and the vicious, and that part of the poor capable of labor. This object, however, your Committee consider not only as secondary, but as incidental; and though a certain consequence of a well arranged and well conducted system of management, of this establishment, yet not as the test either of the importance of the original design, or the success of the institution.

Your Committee apprehend that, altho' the institution should not by [any] possibility effect [471] an immediate or early reduction of the expenses of the Town, in this relation, yet that a good to society, greatly surpassing a pecuniary benefit, will result; — not to be estimated by money and superior to all considerations of that nature.

Without pressing general reflections of this kind farther on the attention of their fellow citizens, already sufficiently satisfied and sensible of them, as the origin and the present progress of this Institution abundantly evidences, your committee restrict themselves on the present occasion simply to remark, that in the present stage of the establishment, it is proper that a system of management, conduct, and discipline should be in train of preparation — that the land connected with it should be put under the control of some superintendence, having reference to the general design of the Institution, — that measures should be adopted, and authorities given for the selection of a suitable Overseer, so that as soon as it is capable of receiving its inmates it may be in a condition to begin its work of restraint, labor and discipline. Whether these objects will be better to be entrusted forthwith to any special committee, or be referred to those authorities, which under a City organization are about to be invested with

the care and management of the [472] concerns of the Town — your Committee refer to the wisdom of their fellow citizens; only remarking, that upon the vigor of the management, the wisdom of the system, and on the qualifications of the superintending officer, its economical, if not its moral effect, must obviously, in a great measure depend.

All the committee apprehend at this time necessary to be done, is to authorize such a sum of money to be put at their disposition as will enable them to complete the Institution at the time contemplated; and that they should be authorized to make such general arrangements of a temporary nature, relative to the management and preparations of the land, as the present season may require, leaving to the new authorities the power of selecting the superintendent and arranging the general system of discipline and conduct.

As, however, in the opinion of your Committee, it may be possible that some modifications of the laws may be useful in forming such a system, and a consequent resort to the Legislature at their ensuing session, necessary, and as waiting for the organization of the city authorities may occasion an inexpedient and disadvantageous delay in commencing the operations of the system, your committee respectfully suggest, that authority should be invested in and instructions given to this or some committee to prepare such a system of [473] conduct and discipline, and to lay the same before the city authorities, as soon after their organization as may be practicable by way of report, with such elucidations as may be deemed expedient; and that the town should recommend to the city authorities, to take early measures, for the consideration of the subject matter of such report, and for the adoption of an efficient system of discipline and management; and for the putting the Institution into effective operation. In conformity with these views, they present to their fellow citizens, for their consideration and adoption, the following resolutions. —

For the Committee

Josiah Quincy, Chairman.

March 21. 1822.

Voted, That the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars be put at the disposition of the Committee for building the House of Industry, and that the said Committee be authorized to draw on the Town Treasurer, for any sum or sums of money, not exceeding that amount, whenever they may deem it wise or necessary.—

Voted, That said Committee be instructed to provide for the temporary care, management, and preparation of the land, as may be necessary during the present spring and summer, and until arrangements on that subject be made by the authorities to be [474] established under the city organization.

Voted, That the Committee having care of the erection of the House of Industry, be instructed as soon as possible to make use of any able bodied poor in the almshouse — And the Overseers of the Poor be requested to deliver over any such poor to the care of said Committee upon their application.

Voted, That the Committee charged with the care of the House of Industry be authorized to prepare a system for the general conduct, management, and discipline of said House, and of the land connected with it, and to lay the same before the said city authorities, for their consideration, as soon as practicable after their organization; and that the said city authorities, be and hereby are requested to take the same and the subject matter of such report into their early consideration, and to adopt such measures in relation to the same as will ensure the attainment of an efficient system of discipline and management, and as may put the said Institution forthwith into effective operation.

A statement of cash paid towards the materials for, and labor done on the House of Industry, barn, wharf &c &c —

For lumber for wharf, barn & house - - - - -	$5691 —
For stone - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3266
	8,957

[475.] Amount brought up - - - - - - - 8,957 —

For bricks - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1291 —
Eor sand and lime - - - - - - - - - - - -	799
For labor in filling up wharf, digging cellar and well, &c &c - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1379
To masons - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4211
To carpenters - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1740
To the Superintendent and to the laborers employed to take care of the materials, &c. - - - - - -	831
For incidental expenses - - - - - - - - - -	404
	$19.612
Cash on hand - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	388
	$20,000

Francis Welch, Treasurer —
Boston March 15. 1822.—

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and published in three of the Newspapers printed in this City.—

The Petition of Henry Davis and others, for a new school house at the north part of the town being read — it was —

Voted, The Petition of Henry Davis and others be committed to the School Committee with instructions to them to proceed forthwith to build a school house at the north part of the town, and to locate the same in some suitable place.—

[476.] Voted, That the School Committee be requested in building the said School House, to take into consideration the connecting with it an Engine House, a Watch house and a Room for Ward Meetings.—

The Meeting was then Dissolved.

Attest, Tho' Clark, Town Clerk.

[477.] At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the City [Town] of Boston, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, holden at Faneuil Hall, on Monday, the 1st day of April A.D. 1822 — 9 o'clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Parkman.

The Constitution respecting the election of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors and Senators was read — also the law dividing the Commonwealth into Districts for the choice of Senators read —

Voted, that the poll shall be closed at 2 o'clock P.M.

The Chairman of the selectmen requested the inhabitants to prepare and bring in their votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth; and six Senators for the District of Suffolk.—

Persons voted for as Governor, with the number of Votes for each person — viz —

His Excellency John Brooks	3114	Geo. G. Channing	1
Hon[l]. William Eustis	1421	Jacob Eustis	1
John Phillips	1	[478] George W. Otis	1
William Phillips	1	D. Webster	1
John Lowell	1	James N. Maffitt	1
Stephen Fairbanks	1	Benjamin Loring	1
Jonathan Simonds	1	Benj[a]. J. French	1
		Ez Hawkes	1

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governor, with the number of votes for each Person — viz —

His Honor William Phillips	3115	Hon[l]. Levi Lincoln	1425
		William Eustis	—

James Brewer	2	Ben Russell	1
William Emmons	1	Eben Thayer	1
Josiah Bradlee	1	Simon Gardner	1
Mich[l]. Roulstone	1	J. D. Howard	1
D Webster	1	E. H. Robbins	1

Persons voted for as Counsellors and Senators for the District of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person — viz —

Hon[l]. John Phillips	4273	Thomas L. Winthrop	2055
" Thomas H. Perkins	2331	[479] Benjamin Whitman	1885
" Jonathan Hunnewell	2188	Samuel A. Wells	1884
Lem[l]. Shaw	2305	Samuel Billings	261
Joseph Tilden	2370	Jacob Hall	258
Benjamin Russell	2098	Daniel Baxter	236
Hon[l]. Henry Dearborn	2106	Doct. William Ingalls	224
George Sullivan	2044	John Brazer	211
Sam[l]. L. Knapp	14	S. A. Whitman	1
Henry Orne	7	Eleazer Pratt	1
James Lloyd	8	Geo. W. Bazin	1
W[m]. Sullivan	5	W[m] Tudor	1
William Gray	5	David Sears	1
W[m] Prescott	4	Abr[m]. Babcock	1
Sam[l]. Brown	3	David Hill	1
Warren Dutton	3	Joshua Eayres	1
Jesse Putnam	2	Rufus Barrus	1
Thomas H. Parker	2	George Blake	1
Gerry Fairbanks	2	Jon[a]. Phillips	1
H. Emmons	2	Redf[d]. Webster	1
Tho[s]. Jackson	1	Sam[l]. Frothingham	1
Jon[a]. Howard	1	Geo. W. Otis	1
George Darracott	1	Jn°. Wells	14
Edw. Tuckerman	1	Dan[l]. Webster	6
Quincy Tufts	1	Lynde Walter	6
A. B. C. Dow	1	Eb. Clough	5
H. A. S. Dearborn	1	P. C. Brooks	4
John B. Brown	1	Jn°. Cotton	3
Henry Gassett	1	Josiah Quincy	3
Jos. Bumstead	1	Fra. J. Oliver	2
Nath[l]. G. Snelling	1	John Brooks	2
John Lepean	1	Jon[a]. Amory	2
Jon[a]. Simonds	1	Ja[s]. Savage	2
Holbrook, Dexter & C°.	1	Jn°. Bellows	1
Elijah Morse	1	Tho' L. Whitman	1
Heman Lincoln	1	George Cabot	1
Samuel Hubbard	14	Jos. Bosed	1
Isaac Winslow	6	Tho' K. Thomas	1
Joseph Jenkins	8	Lewis Tappan	1
Daniel Sargent	5	En. Silsby	1

M Roulstone	4	Wm D. Sohier	1
Benja. Loring	4	John C. Watts	1
Jno. T. Apthorp	3	Benja Rand	1
Jos. T. Buckingham	2	B Homer	1
Thos. Melville	2	J. F. Trueman	1
Nathl. Tracy	2	Tho' K. Jones	1
D Messenger	2	Saml. Cobb	1
Francis C. Gray	2	Wm. Minot	1
B. L. Russell	1	Thads. Page	1
John Sears	1	Benja. West	1
[480] Henry Williams	1	Benj. Rich	1
Thomas Badger	1	Benj. Abrahams	1
Wm. P. Codman	1	Jas. Loring	1
Benj. Whittemore	1	Fras. Welch	1
Benja. Winthrop	1	Enos Cobb	1
Wm. Plympton	1	Win. Lewis	1
Thomas Paul	1	James T. Austin	1

Attested copies of return of Persons voted for as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors and Senators for the District of Suffolk were sealed up in open Town Meeting, (after the vote had been declared) to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by law, and directed as follows — viz —

"To Alden Bradford Esq. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

Votes of the Town of Boston, for Governor and Lieutenant [Governor], sealed up in open Town Meeting."

"To Alden Bradford Esq. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

Votes of the Town of Boston, for six Counsellors & Senators, for the District of Suffolk sealed up in open Town Meeting."

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest, Tho' Clark, Town Clerk.

N. B. — The record of the meeting of April 1, 1822, is that of the last meeting of the inhabitants under the town form of government, consequently the last town meeting, so-called. The new City Government was organized on the first of May, 1822, under John Phillips as the first Mayor of Boston.

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